

GE Retiree meeting Schenectady New York October 25, 2018

Terry Elfers and Darrell Friend, along with other former union representatives from 10 GE locations across the United States, attended our yearly meeting in Schenectady, New York with the GE Global Benefits and H.R. teams.

Unfortunately, it started the same as last year with a new CEO. Last year it was John Flannery, and this year it was Larry Culp. Raghu Krishnamoorthy, corporate HR VP, was there to hear our concerns and proposals, but said he can't do much at this time and he will listen.

With all the rumors and news articles, both in print and online, the future of the pension is one of our main concerns. The company's representative said that GE put 6 billion dollars in the pension fund this year and will do so next year. They were only required to put in 1.5 billion. As for the articles, most were over a year old.

Retirees also need a COLA more than ever.

Retirement Reimbursement Account (RRA) money needs to be increased and made to be permanent. Everyone who had their GE retiree/dependent supplemental health plans taken away should get RRA money. Co-pays and drug costs alone are hurting our retirees. The company said they will only commit to 2019 RRA money at this time.

Many other issues and concerns were discussed. Mary Beth and her team tried to resolve issues we brought up and will follow up on others.

Darrell and I have negotiated many contracts and agreements with GE. This is **NOT** the same GE. They are totally disregarding the people that built GE and are trying to improve profits on the backs of the retirees. We have stood side by side on the picket line many times. Now more than ever, we need to stand together. **STAY INFORMED**, come to the union meetings, go on the IAM web page, and help when asked to attend rallies.

In Solidarity,

Terry Elfers and Darrell Friend