

UAW Benefits Information October 2009

VEBA Voluntary Employer Benefit Association

The Health Care VEBA takes over payment and administration of Retiree benefits effective January 1, 2010. This is an administration shift and Retirees will not see any changes immediately in the levels of benefits. You will, however, start to receive new ID cards by the first part of December.

The VEBA mission statement: "To earn the trust of UAW retirees and to use the VEBA trust assets to provide retirees with secure and continual healthcare coverage." The VEBA will design benefits to accomplish this. Retirees will be receiving VEBA letters starting early November. It is advised that you **read**, file and save these mailings so you will stay informed. The VEBA is committed to getting new medical ID cards to all UAW-GM Retirees by early December which will replace your Blue Cross card.

Lump-Sum Christmas Payment

Yes, it will be paid out again this year! Retirees who retired *prior* to 10-1-07 will receive a maximum payment of \$700 based on 30 years of service. Those with less than 30 years will receive a pro-rated amount based on \$23.33 per year of **GM** credited service. Surviving spouses will receive 65%. Typically this is paid out in mid-December.

Dental Coverage

Retirees will be receiving a letter from the International Union about the loss of GM-paid dental coverage and information on an option to pick it up on your own, without the typical 6-month waiting period for expensive services. The letter discusses product offerings, and it appears that this new **individual** dental coverage plan provides benefits that are similar (although not identical) to your former group plan. You may contact Delta Dental at 1-888-607-7001 or at www.mysmilecoverage.com for more information. Remember, purchasing insurance on a self-pay basis is an individual decision, based on your family's personal situation. Make sure you know what you are buying before signing up. As stated in the letter, you must sign up for coverage by November 1 to avoid a waiting period.

Flu Shots

Flu shots are a covered benefit. One per person, annually, when given at the participating doctor's office. Facility charges or office visit charges are not a covered benefit. At this time, the H1N1 (swine flu) is not a covered benefit.

Garden City Group Mailings – Active and Retirees

These are informational bankruptcy documents; there is nothing to respond to.

Benefits Office

Joining the office is Angie VanArnam, who will also be continuing to provide Employee Assistance services to our members and retirees.

The office is closed Fridays. Please email lauri.veneman@gm.com or angie.vanarnam@gm.com or call 616-246-3450 or 800-730-8292 and leave a brief message. If you feel you need an appointment, please call ahead.

Resources

For those seeking more information on what's going on with the company and union, these websites may be of interest to you: gmretiree.com and www.uaw.org

Retirees now own 18% of GM. We need the help of all of us to turn GM around. We should be purchasing and flaunting our GM products to our friends and family members and using www.gmfamilyfirst.com for discounts. Now, more than ever, we need GM to be successful!