



UNICO NATIONAL

PASSAIC VALLEY CHAPTER
P.O. BOX 341
LITTLE FALLS, NJ 07424
PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com
www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org

MONTHLY MINUTES January 9, 2019

Date January 9, 2019
Place Amore Ristorante, Woodland Park
Prayer 6:59 pm Sgt. At-Arms Dominick Bucci
Flag Salute 7:00 pm Sgt. At-Arms Dominick Bucci
Time 7:01 pm Dinner
Meeting 8:00 pm President Carmen Gaita

Members & Guests in Attendance

Members: 30
Guests: 0

Executive Board

<u>Attendance at meetings</u>	<u>9/18</u>	<u>10/18</u>	<u>11/18</u>	<u>12/18</u>	<u>1/19</u>	<u>2/19</u>	<u>3/19</u>	<u>4/19</u>	<u>5/19</u>	<u>6/18</u>
President: Carmen Gaita	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
1 st VP: Eileen Wood	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
2 nd VP: Pat Ligouri	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
Secretary: Steve Pelonero	☺	☺	---	☺	☺					
Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak	☺	☺	?	---	☺					
SgtAtArms: Dominick Bucci	☺	---	?	☺	☺					

Delegates at meetings

Jean Chomko	☺	☺	?	☺	☺
Joyce O'Hara	☺	☺	?	☺	☺
Eileen Wood	☺	☺	?	☺	☺

Board of Directors at meetings (6 past Chapter Presidents)

John Barbieri	☺	☺	?	☺	☺
Bob Appaluccio	---	☺	?	---	☺
Steve Pelonero	☺	☺	?	☺	☺
Carmen Criscione	☺	☺	?	☺	☺
Sal Benvenuti	☺	☺	?	☺	☺
Angelo Verrone	☺	☺	?	☺	☺



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Past Chapter Presidents in attendance at meetings

	<u>9/18</u>	<u>10/18</u>	<u>11/18</u>	<u>12/18</u>	<u>1/19</u>	<u>2/19</u>	<u>3/19</u>	<u>4/19</u>	<u>5/19</u>	<u>6/18</u>
Joe Agresti PNP	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
Bob Appaluccio	---	☺	?	---	☺					
John Barbieri	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
Sal Benvenuti	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
Carmen Criscione	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
John Morano	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
Steve Pelonero	☺	☺	?	☺	☺					
Bruce Ponchak	☺	☺	?	---	☺					
Chuck Russo	☺	☺	?	---	☺					
Angelo Verrone	☺	---	?	☺	☺					

Opening Remarks

- President Carmen Gaita:
 - Carmen welcomed everyone and wished all a Happy New Year to their families and friends
 - He noted that our 2nd biggest fundraiser is coming up soon and hopes to see most if not all there: Our 1st Annual Pig Roast
 - Carmen said that our chapter should be proud that of the fact that we gave 6 anonymous families. \$1000 each for the Christmas Holidays
 - We also collected unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots program which is run by the Little Falls PBA
 - We also gave \$200.00 to NJ District IV as a donation towards their/our Annual Christmas Dinner
 - We also gave \$500.00 to a local family to make their bathroom handicap accessible for their disabled child
 - Carmen ended by saying that we do of this with the fundraising efforts of our chapter. To continue this, we must and we should all be active and participate in our chapter fundraising
 - Our next meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of February 13th will be at Amore Restaurant. No one stepped up and offered any other venues as suggested
- 1st VP Eileen Wood:
 - Eileen wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year
- 2nd VP Patrick Liguori:
 - Pat wished everyone a happy New Year



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Secretary Minutes

Secretary: Steve Pelonero

Steve noted that votes had to be taken on both the November abbreviated minutes because the meeting agenda was waived at the December Christmas Meeting. Minutes were email out

1st Bob Appaluccio
2nd Mark BiFalco
Discussion: None
All in favor: Yes

Steve also said that a vote was needed to accept the December minutes which were also emailed to everyone, twice each over the past month and also on our website

1st Joe Benvenuti
2nd Angelo Verrone
Discussion: None
All in favor: Yes

Steve noted that all of the 2018-2019 minutes are on our chapter website for future reference

Treasurer Report

Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak

Bruce noted that the report for December meeting was waived because of our Christmas Dinner Meeting. He then asked for a motion to accept the treasurers report which was emailed out to everyone. Copies were also available at the meeting

1st Frank Capalbo
2nd Joe Benvenuti
Discussion: None
All in favor: Yes

Good and Welfare: Sal Nocella

- No report from Sal
- Carmen Gaita reported that John Morano recently had a death in the family, his cousin Jim Morano
- Bob Appaluccio also noted that this meeting day was “Officer Appreciation Day” and thanked the officers in attendance at our meeting: Jim Minnella and retired officer Frank Capalbo



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Bills & Communications

- Bob Appaluccio reported that two thank you letters were received (and read) for our Christmas Cheer donations

Standing Committees

Chuck Russo reported that PVHS has our Scholarship Application. If anyone knows of a student who lives in one of our three supported towns that does not go to PV to contact him and he will make sure that the students gets an application. Chuck also reported that our Scholarship Dinner date will be June 12th

- **Scholarship: Joe Agresti, PNP:**
 - No report
- **Brian Piccolo: Chuck Russo:**
 - No report

Fundraising Committees

- **Community Service: Chuck Russo**
 - Chuck reported that Community Service Day is April 27th, Saturday
- **Dine with UNICO: Joe Benvenuti, Mark BiFalco, Jean Chomko**
 - Under new business, Jean Chomko asked for the OK to research another Dine with UNICO at Maggie's Town Tavern in Little Falls to help support the 2020 Convention Fund. Carmen asked that Jean get all of the information, date/dates in particular so that the chapter executive board can see if it will conflict with any other chapter events
- **Dinner for Two: Carmen Criscione**
 - Being worked on. Drawing date will be July 11 at PJ Rufo's in Woodland Park. We are currently waiting for an updated Gaming License from the state of NJ which Bruce Ponchak submitted for renewal
- **Food Pantry: Roni Corrado**
 - No report (Roni was not at meeting)



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- **Golf Outing: Joe Barone**
 - Joe reported that the date is June 10 at Preakness Valley GC (otherwise known as Passaic County)
- **Holiday Donations: Bob Appaluccio**
 - Bob read the two thank you letters that were received during the Bills and Communications report section. Bob also thank the members and chapter for their generosity
- **Modells: Roni Corrado**
 - No report (Roni was not at meeting)
- **Overseas Soldiers: Pat Corrado**
 - Evelyn Tosi reported that her grandson is coming back from being overseas and that our packages were received. She said that he would like to attend a chapter meeting and talk about his experiences
- **Pasta Dinner: Dominick Bucci**
 - No report
- **Pig Roast: Joe Agresti PNP / Jim Minella**
 - Joe thanked the members who took and sold tickets. Joe reported that this is one of our two big fundraisers and added that these fundraisers are how we are able to give out to the various charities that we do (Holiday Donations, Christmas Parties, Tree Lightings, Easter Egg Hunt, etc, etc ...). At the present count we are only at 80 paid with a commitment of another 10, with most of the tickets sales going to only 10-15 members of the 48 in our chapter. No money will be collected at the door. Pre-assigned tables. Get your ticket money and table requests in by January 19th (a week before the event)
- **Toys for Tots: Eileen Wood**
 - No report
- **2020 Vision Wine Raffle: Steve Pelonero**
 - Steve reported that this fundraiser is also be worked on. Drawing date will be July 11 at PJ Rufo's in Woodland Park, along with the Dinner for a Year Raffle. This raffle will be used and given to UNICO National to help subsidize the 2020 Convention. We are also currently waiting for an updated Gaming License from the state of NJ which Bruce Ponchak submitted for renewal



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Non-Fundraising Committees

- **Christmas Meeting Dinner: Joe Agresti PNP**
 - No report
- **Christmas Tree Lighting: Joe Agresti PNP**
 - No report
- **Easter Egg Hunt: Joe Agresti PNP & Pat Ligouri**
 - Joe mentioned, as in the Pig Roast report, that this is one of the events where profits from all of our chapter fundraising events covers the expenses in an event such as this
- **December Holiday Trip: Joe Agresti**
 - No report
- **Heritage Day: Steve Pelonero**
 - No report
- **Heritage Talk: Angelo Verrone**
 - Angelo said that one offered any suggestions to talk about
- **Membership: John Barbieri**
 - John reported that we were at 48 members
- **Newsletter: Steve Pelonero**
 - Steve reported that there were two copies of our January newsletter at the meeting and that it is also on our website
- **Website: Steve Pelonero / John Barbieri**
 - Steve reported that there were 84,000+ visits to our website, all event dates and fliers are up-to-date, and that minutes and a calendar are also on the website. Steve noted that he was also using the members section
 - John reported that more members were utilizing the members section



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National News

- Steve Pelonero reported that the National Mid-Year Board meeting is to be held in Orlando FL on March 1st
- Steve reported that the Convention will be held in Nashville TN at a room rate of \$179 a night. Wednesday through Saturday, July 24th, 25, 26 and 27th
- Steve reported that there is UNICO Hockey Night at the Newark Prudential Center, Thursday, March 21st. 7:00 pm game. Devils vs Bruins. The flier is on the UNICO National website and also in the UNICO National Photo Gallery Section

District News

- Chapter President Carmen reminded everyone that there was a NJ District IV meeting on Thursday, January 10 in Bloomfield. As of now he said there were 6 members attending

Old Business

- No old business

New Business

- Jean Chomko said that she would like to chair another Dine with UNICO at the Town Tavern in Little Falls. President Carmen Gaita asked that she get all of the dates and information and present it to the executive board for approval
- John Morano remarked that this is now the time to start thinking about supporting our chapter member Steve Pelonero for fundraising for the 2020 convention when he becomes UNICO National President
- Joe Agresti PNP also noted that it takes a lot of money to hold a convention
- Angelo Verrone reported that if your health insurance company supports the Silver Sneaker Program, that Gold's Gym will give you free admittance to their facility
- Joe Benvenuti asked if he could pass out fliers for a Little Falls PTA Fundraiser. Those that were interested just need to ask for a flier
- Jim Minnella reported a Little Falls PBA Beefsteak at the Meatcutter Hall on February 1st. The LF PBA has a table coming to our Pig Roast and if any one in the chapter would like to reciprocate please let him know. Ten members said they were interested in attending. Bring your \$55.00 to the Pig Roast for the PBA Dinner

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn @ 8:44 pm

1st Joe Benvenuti 2nd Angelo Verrone All in favor

Respectfully Taken by

Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter Secretary