



UNICO NATIONAL

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

MONTHLY MINUTES September 11, 2019

<u>Date</u>	September 11, 2019	
<u>Place</u>	St. Agnes Church, Little Falls	
<u>Prayer</u>	7:00 pm	Sgt.At Arms Dominick
<u>Flag Salute</u>	7:02 pm	Sgt.At Arms Dominick
<u>Dinner</u>	7:04 pm	Catered
<u>Meeting</u>	8:00 pm	

Members & Guests in Attendance

Members for dinner: 28
Members total for meeting: 31 + 1 guest
Guests: Prospective member: Emelia Architetto Catalano Klosek (Application filled out)

Executive Board

<u>Attendance at meetings</u>	9/19	10/19	11/19	12/19	1/20	2/20	3/20	4/20	5/20	6/20
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	x
Sal Benvenuti	😊
Angelo Verrone	😊



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Past Chapter Presidents in attendance at meetings

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

Opening Remarks

- **President Carmen Gaita:**
 - Carmen welcomed everyone to the first meeting of our UNICO year. He noted and presented our chapter budget. would be talked about and voted on at the October meeting
 - Carmen welcomed and introduced our guest, a hopeful new member
- **1st VP Eileen Wood:**
 - Eileen was excited and ready to start the new UNICO year
- **2nd VP Patrick Ligouri:**
 - Pat welcomed everyone

Secretary Minutes

Secretary: Steve Pelonero

Steve reported that the minutes were emailed out, some were printed and put on the tables at this meeting. He noted that they were also on the chapter website. It was asked for a motion to accept

1st Bob Appaluccio

2nd Jean Chomko

Discussion: None

All in favor: Yes



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Treasurer Report

Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak

Bruce reported that the treasurers report was emailed out, some were printed and put on the tables at this meeting. It was asked for a motion to accept

1st Joe Benvenuti
2nd Roni Corrado
Discussion: None
All in favor: Yes

Good and Welfare: Sal Nocella

- John Alati, PNP is now home from the hospital

Bills & Communications

- Thank you was received from the Special Olympics
- Request for donation from the Special Olympics (tabled)
- Thank you letters were received from the UNICO National and UNICO Foundation charities that we donated to at the Convention in Nashville TN

Standing Committee

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

Fundraising Committees

- **Community Service: Chuck Russo**
 - No report
- **Dine with UNICO: Joe Benvenuti, Mark BiFalco, Jean Chomko**
 - No report



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- **Dinner for a Year: Carmen Criscione**
 - No report
- **Food Pantry: Roni Corrado**
 - A \$700 donation was made to St. James Church from the Ralph Torracco Food Pantry/ Shelter UNICO Foundation. It was given to our chapter to present it to them
 - Joe Agresti noted that www.InserraSupermarkers.com has a grant program that we could look into
- **Golf Outing: Joe Barone**
 - Joe reported that a tentative date was picked but that he also wanted his committee to meet right after this monthly chapter meeting was adjourned
 - Joe also reported that a net profit from our 2019 outing brought in \$8,900.00
- **Models Sporting Goods: Roni Corrado**
 - Roni asked that it now the time to approach Modell for their coupon fundraiser. It was brought up in discussion that due to the fact that it only brings in less than \$50.00 that this event be dropped. All were in favor
- **Overseas Soldiers: Pat Corrado**
 - It was noted that Evelyn Tosi's grandson is back here in the states and that he did receive our packages while stationed overseas
- **Pig Roast: Joe Agresti PNP / Jim Minella**
 - No report
- **Beefsteak Dinner: Joe Benvenuti**
 - Joe Benvenuti reported that he will try to get our Beefsteak Fundraiser going once again
- **2020 Vision Wine Raffle: Steve Pelonero**
 - No report
- **2020 Convention Fundraisers**
 - John Morano talked about the Friday October 4th fundraiser at the Russisn Hall. It is a 2020 convention fundraiser for when Steve Pelonero, chapter member, will be sworn in as National president. John noted that all of the extras at a convention cost money and this helps alleviate them. He asked that people attend it and to see him as noted on the flier that was handed out



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- It was noted also that on December 7th, Saturday, there is a NYC bus ride that is hosted by the Passaic-Clifton chapter with our NJ District IV backing it. The flier was also handed out giving the details. \$100 gets you on a bus in Little Falls, brings you to Mulberry Street in NYC where a multiple course dinner is served. You get back on the bus and go to see the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree for an hour or two. Then back on the bus to go back to Little Falls. Pre pay only to reserve a seat on the bus
 - On November 12th Tuesday there is a National Fundraiser for the Convention. A Cigar Fundraiser There is also a room with no smoke allowed in it for those that just want to enjoy a buffet dinner with wine or beer and to mingle and to meet other chapter members and friends of UNICO. That flier was handed out also

Non-Fundraising Committees

- **Bunny Breakfast: Joe Agresti PNP**
 - No report
- **Heritage Talk: Angelo Verrone**
 - No report
- **Membership: John Barbieri**
 - John noted that there are 51 members (52 members on the National Roster)
 - The average age of our chapter is 71 year of age
- **Newsletter: Steve Pelonero**
 - Steve reported that our chapter newsletter is on our website
- **Website: Steve Pelonero / John Barbieri**
 - Steve reported that as of Sept. 11, 2019, on our www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org website, that it is now at 84,991 visits
 - John reported that everything is good with his



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National News

- Steve Pelonero reported that Sal Benvenuti brought a box of the 2020 Heritage Calendar to the meeting. Members please take them and hand some out to your local restaurants, etc
- There will be the UNICO National Float at the Basilone Parade Sept 22 in Raritan
- Columbus Parades – Seaside and NYC
- Eastern Region Hershey PA – November 8 & 9
- November 12 – Brick House Fundraiser

District News

- NJ District XI Bocce Tournament Sunday Sept 15
- NJ District IV Meeting – Amore Sept 17 Tuesday. \$35.00 and BYO
- Dec 1, Sunday, NJ District IV Christmas Dinner for Special Needs. More information to follow

Old Business

None

New Business

- Dominick Bucci noted that a new patch was on our chapter banner – Chapter Achievement
- Eileen Wood gave her report on the 2019 National Convention in Nashville TN
- It was noted that at our membership of 52 members we have 3 delegates ... When convention time comes closer, we will then decide by vote who the delegates will be. Delegates must attend all District meetings as well as attend the meetings and workshops, and Foundation meeting at the convention
- Joe Benvenuti asked for a donation of \$100 for Little Falls Schools 2 & 3. A motion was made by Angelo Verrone and 2ndd by Joe Agresti. All were in favor
- Eileen Wood made note that her nephew Russell Domicoli is in the hospital with a disease called L.I.S. which has left him paralyzed except for his eye movement. After explaining the family situation, a motion was made to donate \$500.00 which the executive board needs to approve for the next meeting. The motion was made by Joe Agresti and 2ndd by Pat Ligouri. All were in favor based on the Executive Board decision at the October meeting



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- There was discussion by Bob Appaluccio on the \$2,500.00 budgeted item for the Basket of Christmas Cheer. Chuck Russo made a recommendation, that along with some of the Community Service Day money that one of the \$500 recipients be Russell. A decision will be made at the October meeting. A motion was made to approve that line item by Roni Corrado and Bob Appaluccio. All were in favor based on the passing of the budget at the October meeting
 - Joe Agresti noted that St. Agnes was broken into and a motion was made to donate \$100.00 to the church by Pete Longo with a 2nd made by Eileen Wood. All were in favor
 - Some discussion was made by Sal Benvenuti that he was looking into a Heritage Day get-together, possibly called "Taste of Italy". The event possibly would be held at Franks Pizza & Restaurant in Lincoln Park
 - President Carmen noted that with all of the new motions to donate more, that already the budget would have to be re-adjusted to cover the new \$700.00 in donations

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn @ 9:16 pm

1st Tony Orlando

2nd Joe Agresti PNP

All were in favor

Respectfully Taken by

Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter Secretary