



UNICO NATIONAL

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

MONTHLY MINUTES September 11, 2019

Date November 13, 2019
Place Francesco's in Woodland Park
Prayer 7:01 pm Sgt. At Arms Dominick
Flag Salute 7:03 pm Sgt. At Arms Dominick
Dinner 7:08 pm
Meeting 8:00 pm

Members & Guests in Attendance

Members 31: for dinner
Total: 31

Executive Board

Attendance at meetings	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	😊	😊	x							
Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	x							
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	😊	😊	x
Carmen Criscione	x	😊	😊
Sal Benvenuti	😊	x	x
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	😊	x	x							
Carmen Criscione	x	😊	😊							
John Morano	😊	😊	😊							
Steve Pelonero	😊	😊	x							
Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	x							
Chuck Russo	😊	😊	😊							
Angelo Verrone	😊	😊	😊							

Opening Remarks

- **President Carmen Gaita:**
 - Carmen welcomed everyone and wished everyone and their families a Happy Thanksgiving
 - Carmen said the next meeting will be the Christmas Party at Franks in Lincoln Park. It will be held on a Monday, December 9th and the cost will be \$35 a person. Spouses and significant others are welcome to come. It will be family style and food will be: cold antipasto, Calamari, penne with red sauce and vodka sauce, chicken parmesan, sausage and broccoli, flounder, and coffee. Our chapter will be buying a cake, Carmen asked if every member could bring an unwrapped toy, for Toys for Tots. The age bracket for the toys goes up to age 13
 - The January meeting will be a pizza meeting at St. Agnes church in Little Falls
 - Carmen then announced and swore in two new members into our chapter: Elelia Klosek from Wayne and Anthony Ribauda from Verona
- **1st VP Eileen Wood:**
 - Eileen welcomed everyone and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving
 - Eileen said that her niece received the check for \$500 from our chapter and was extremely grateful and Eileen said that all members are welcome to attend the Tuesday, November 19th fundraiser at Tavern 5 for Russell Domicoli. 20% of the sales to be given to the family
- **2nd VP Patrick Ligouri:**
 - No report



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Secretary Minutes

Secretary: Steve Pelonero

In Steve's absence, President Carmen noted that the minutes were emailed to all our members by Steve and also to UNICO National for their records. They were printed and put on the tables as well as being on our chapter website. A motion was requested to accept them

1st Bob Appaluccio

2nd Lat Ligouri

Discussion: None

All in favor: Yes

Treasurer Report

Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak

In Bruce's absence, President Carmen asked for the Treasurer Report, that was also emailed to everyone, be approved with a motion to accept

1st Jim Minella

2nd Joe Agresti

Discussion: None

All in favor: Yes

Good and Welfare: Sal Nocella

- No report

Bills & Communications

- No report



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Standing Committee & Non-Fundraising Committees

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

Fundraising Committees

- **Community Service: Chuck Russo**
 - The date has been set for April 25th at ShopRite in Little Falls
- **Food Pantry: Roni Corrado**
 - Roni thanked all the members for their donations to the food pantry. It will be greatly appreciated especially for the holidays
- **Golf Outing: Joe Barone**
 - No report
- **Overseas Soldiers: Pat Corrado**
 - Roni Corrado reported that no one in our UNICO chapter families are overseas, however Evelyn Tosi's grandson will be assigned but he is not sure where and when. Once Evelyn knows, she will let us know as well
- **Beefsteak Dinner: Joe Benvenuti**
 - Joe reported that the Beefsteak will be held February 8th from 7 p, till 11 pm at the Russian Hall. The cost is \$55 a person and includes beefsteak, beer, wine and soda. Music will be provided that evening by the American Expression Band. He hopes to see everyone there as this will be the only fundraiser for the chapter besides the golf outing.
- **Holiday Cheer: Bob Appaluccio**
 - Bob thanked the members who donated at this meeting. The generosity of the members is greatly appreciated. For those members still wishing to donate please have the money by the first week in December so the gift cards can be brought and given to the families for the holiday
 - Two families have already been selected and this year we are looking to give to about 5 to 6 families. Gift cards will be purchased from ShopRite, Target, or Kohl's to be given to the families so they can use them for their families. Trying to collect at least \$2,500 so we can give \$500 to each family



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- **2020 Convention Fundraisers**
- Joe Agresti reported that the UNICO National Cigar Night at the Brick House, with open dining during the night, away from the Cigar Smoke, was a great night
- Joe Agresti mentioned that the NJ District IV Convention Bus Ride to Little Italy, is a First Pay First Go Event. No holding seats unless they are pre-paid for

Non-Fundraising Committees

- **Membership: John Barbieri**
- John reported that there are 54 members
- Two new members were sworn in at tonight's meeting

- **Newsletter: Steve Pelonero**
- No report

- **Website: Steve Pelonero / John Barbieri**
- John reported that everything is good

National News

- The 990 needs to be filled out
- The UNICO National Office Open House Christmas Party will be held at the National Office in Fairfield on December 6th. Information is available on the website
- March 19, 2020 is the Mid-Year Board Meeting in St. Petersburg, FL. Delegates are urged to attend along with chapter members always invited to participate as well
- July 23, 2020 is the opening Ice Breaker at the 98th National Convention in Fort Myers, FL at the Sanibel Harbor Beach Marriott. It was asked if the rooms can be booked. It was asked of Steve, via a text in his absence at the meeting. Steve said yes, they can be booked and urged that they be done as early as possible as a guarantee that you have a room. The more bookings made is a plus for the bargaining power of the convention committee with the hotel. There is a one-week cancellation window with no penalty if you cannot make it.



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District News

- December 1, Sunday, is the NJ District IV Christmas Dinner for our Special Need Friends. It will be held at the Chandelier and the cost is \$45 per person. The time is 11 am until 2:30 pm. This is a great day for all there, There will be music, along with Santa making a guest appearance
- December 7th, Saturday, there is a NJ District IV Convention Fundraiser Bus Ride to Mulberry St in Little Italy, NYC. The first 55 people that pay are guaranteed a seat on the bus. Perks are there is no driving, no tolls, no parking, a 4-course dinner with wine. Back on the bus, a ride to see the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree for appx an hour or so. Then back on the bus to back to Little Falls. All for \$100 per person
- January 31st, 2020, Friday at 6:30 pm. This night is a pasta dinner Party with all of the proceeds to benefit our Annual Special Needs Friends Christmas Party. It will be held at the Wayne PAL, on 1 Pal Drive in Wayne. Cost is \$20 per person, children are \$10. Contact if is Joe Agresti PNP, Steve Calantone, NJ IV DG, Dave D'Arco Chapter President of Passaic-Clifton UNICO. The flier is on our chapter website (see above for the link)

Old Business

- Steve Pelonero, as secretary, reported that 11 members still have not paid their dues. By the end of the meeting Bruce and Steve got together and we are now at 9 members. Steve said a last mailing on November 1st will go out with another email reminder before the November meeting (date and place will be announced in a future email). The deadline for dues is November.
- Carmen Gaita asked if there we any more questions on our chapter budget. Bruce Ponchak noted that it was the same as presented at the October meeting.
- A motion was made as asked for at the October meeting that we donate \$500 to the Russell Domicoli family for the illness situations that they were hit with.
- The budget motions were made by Joe Agresti and John Barbieri. All were in favor
- Another motion was made that one of the Xmas Baskets go to the Domicoli family. Motions were made by Joe Agresti and Pat Ligouri

New Business

- Henry Youngster made a motion to increase our budgeted line item to the NJ District IV dinner from \$200 to \$500 which would help defray the rising costs of the event. A 2nd to the motion was made by Mark BiFalco. All were in favor
- The chapter voted on if the members would attend the Tree Light for Both Woodland Park on December 1st at 6:30 pm and also for Little Falls on December 6th. A motion was mad to spend \$150 to be used to get candy as a giveaway for the tree lighting. John Morano made the motion with a 2nd by Carmen Criscione. All were in favor



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Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn @ 8:53 pm

1st Jim Minella

2nd Pat Ligouri

All were in favor

Respectfully Taken by

Christina Castillo in the absence of our Passaic Valley Chapter Secretary Steve