

July/August 2020

Year 18

Issue 178

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our July and August 2020 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO
PO Box 341
Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving
Little Falls
Totowa
Woodland Park

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Website www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org
Website www.UNICOMembers.com
Website www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO
Website www.UNICO.org
Email PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

A Message from our Chapter President

Ciao Passaic Valley Chapter Members:

As I write my first chapter newsletter, I want to wish you all a great summer. I hope you and your families are all well and safe. This pandemic will certainly change the way we will be able to continue our help and service to the community.

I want to thank the members that tuned into our June Zoom meeting and were able to view the swearing in by NJ Dist. IV Governor Steve Calantone of all our new officers: 2nd V.P. Dominick Bucci, Treasurer Bruce Ponchak, Secretary Steve Pelonero and Sgt. of Arms Jim Minnella. We will swear in our 1st.VP Pat Liguori at our next meeting in September.

I too was deeply honored to be sworn in as your first woman President of Passaic Valley Chapter by our UNICO National President Dr. Frank DeFrank.

Let us all put our thinks caps on and come up with some new fund raisers and possibly recruit some new members.

I promise to do my best to fulfill this position you have entrusted to me and be able to attend all of our chapter and district meetings as I now reside in Manchester (down the shore). Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any issues or fund raiser ideas you may have and would like to see us pursue. With the help of my Chapter Officers and Board of Directors I am sure we will continue to provide "Service Above Self" as we have done in the past.

*Ciao,
Eileen Wood*



July Birthdays

- 07-06 Emilia Klosek
- 07-09 Jessica Gaita
- 07-20 Evelyn Tosi
- 07-27 Pasquale Corrado
- 07-31 Joe Benvenuti

August Birthdays

- 08-09 Joe Agresti PNP
- 08-09 Tony Orlando
- 08-15 Pete Longo
- 08-24 Carmen Allora
- 08-25 Joe McGill
- 08-26 Gioia Gaita
- 08-31 Yelenda Stucherck

Photo Albums

All of our chapter events pictures can be seen on our website ... Additional pictures from our "NJ IV District" and also a lot from our "UNICO National" events can also be seen on their websites.

www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org

www.UNICO.org

www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com

Food Pantry

Please do not forget about our UNICO Phil Arena and our other Food Pantries ... Your non-perishable donation will help restock it

You can bring it directly to the pantry in the basement of Holy Angels Church ... or to any chapter meeting

Upcoming Events – Local and National

July 1, 2020 ... *The first day of the UNICO National Year*

September 9, 2020 ... *2nd Wednesday ... Our chapter monthly meeting ... More information will follow*

December 2020 ... *The deadline for our chapter to get our chapter dues and updated member list in to UNICO National ... Please pay your dues as early as possible*

July 21-24, 2021 ... *The 98th Annual UNICO Convention where our chapter member, Steve Pelonero, gets sworn in as our next UNICO National President ... "Save the Dates"*



Message from our Chapter Secretary

As another year begins for UNICO National every July 1st, this is a reminder that our annual chapter dues can now be paid. We in turn on the due day to National, will pay our dues to them and let them know who stayed on board to help our causes both locally and nationally. And let us not forget that you will again be able to say that you are still a member of the largest Italian American Service Organization in the USA. Your dues checks can be made out to Passaic Valley UNICO. A regular member is \$80.00. A youth member (25 years of age and under) is \$15.00. A life exempt member (of which we do have a few) is at \$15.00. Life exempt status is 30 consecutive years of UNICO service and over 75 years of age. God Bless all of us for our Service Above Self. We also thank those who have already paid them. You should no longer be receiving a reminder letter via USPS.

Below are our UNICO's CORE VALUES

*If you know of someone who has them or
If you know of someone who would like to help us make a difference
Please invite them to a meeting and possibly have them
join our chapter as a new member*

- U – Unity**
- N – Neighborliness**
- I – Integrity**
- C – Charity**
- O – Opportunity**

"Service Above Self"





Did You Know:

The grants and the scholarships that UNICO National and the UNICO Foundation give out every year are monies raised and donated by chapters, districts, and member donations given at the annual UNICO convention. Other monies are raised from the interest from the accounts that they are invested in. Please consider helping.

ComUNICO

You can now read the Com-UNICO magazine online, just by clicking on the cover page below



Who's Who

Our 2020-2021 Executive Board

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| President | Eileen Wood |
| 1st Vice President | Pat Ligouri |
| 2nd Vice President | Dominick Bucci |
| Treasurer | Bruce Ponchak |
| Recording Secretary | Steve Pelonero |
| Sgt. At-Arms | Jim Minnella |
| Corresponding Secretary | John Morano |

Our 2020-2021 Board of Directors

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Carmen Gaita | Past Chapter President | 2018 & 2019 |
| Bruce Ponchak | Past Chapter President | 2016 & 2017 |
| John Barbieri | Past Chapter President | 2014 & 2015 |
| Robert Appaluccio | Past Chapter President | 2012 & 2013 |
| Steve Pelonero | Past Chapter President | 2010 & 2011 |
| Carmen Criscione | Past Chapter President | 2008 & 2009 |

Our 2020-2021 Chapter Delegates

President Eileen Wood ... 55 Members (President +3)
 Delegates and alternates: To be voted on at a chapter meeting
 Delegates represent our chapter vote at national meetings

Fundraising Committee Heads

| | |
|--|--|
| Beefsteak | Joe Benvenuti |
| Dine with UNICO | Joe Benvenuti, Mark BiFalco, Jean Chomko |
| Golf Outing | Joe Barone Holiday |
| Donations | Robert Appaluccio |
| Overseas Armed Service Care Packages | Pat Corrado |
| Wine Raffle | Steve Pelonero |

Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Christmas Tree Lighting w/ Candy Cane Giveaway | Joe Agresti PNP |
| Community Service Day (April) | Chuck Russo |
| Easter Egg Hunt w/Breakfast | Joe Agresti PNP / Patrick Ligouri |
| Food Pantry | Roni Corrado |
| Good and Welfare | Sal Nocella |
| Membership | John Barbieri |
| Newsletter | Steve Pelonero |
| Scholarship / Brian Piccolo | Chuck Russo |
| Study Abroad College Grants | Joseph Agresti PNP |
| Website | Steven Pelonero / John Barbieri |

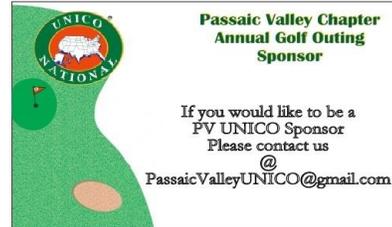
Committee Comments

*Would you like to be on a committee?
Would you like to be a chapter officer?
Do you have a Fundraising idea?*

*Please step up and
Serve our Chapter, our Community
and UNICO National*

Keep us strong

Let more people know what we do



*Do you know of some who would like to sponsor our
UNICO Chapter?*

*For just \$100.00 for the year,
it gets them in this newsletter and
on our chapter website
for our entire UNICO year.*

*Please contact us via our chapter email:
PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com
Or use our website to fill out the online form
www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org*

Dear Chapter Members:

The Covid Emergency Response Committee (CERC) is transitioning into a new mission

We had very recently donated approximately \$1500 to the St Agnes Food Pantry (from Chapter "Emergency Funds", member donations, and donations from friends and relatives of our membership). A great team effort...thanks to everyone. The true essence of Service Above Self.

We have now received a request from the Little Sisters of the Poor (St Joseph's Home for the (impoverished) Elderly in Totowa). They are in Desperate Need (the words of Sister Lorraine) for paper plates and plastic utensils etc for their "COVID Unit"....all those supplies are disposed of after one use. On that note, we have just donated to them, the last week of May, \$300 of the above said needs.

From the chapter "Emergency Fund", and, thus far, a couple of personal donations, we already have over \$350. Members of the committee will be making a trip to Costco and/or BJ's to purchase as much of the aforementioned supplies as possible to be delivered to the Sisters.

Because of the generous member donations to St Agnes FP, this is a notice to advise what CERC is now involve d with and is not necessarily a plea for member donations/financial help (although it is more than welcomed).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions, or to join CERC.

Thank you and stay safe.

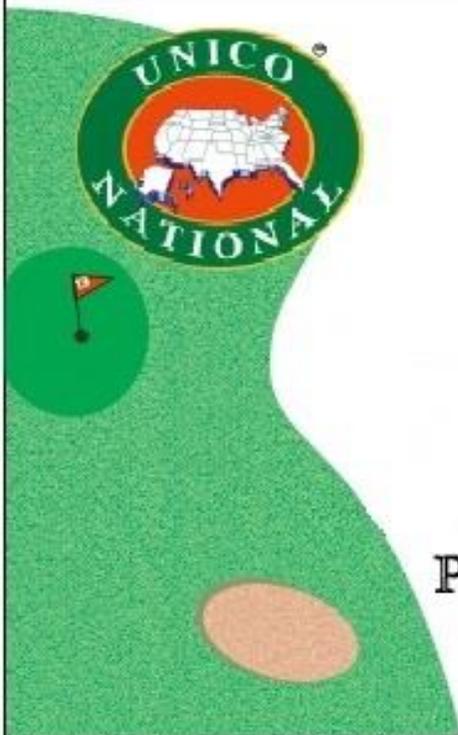
*Yours in UNICO
Chuck*



It is “Never Too Late”

*We will advertise your business, or your personal ad, for an entire UNICO year
See page 7*





Passaic Valley Chapter

Sponsor

If you would like to be a
PV UNICO Sponsor
Please contact us
@
PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

Our UNICO National Charities

National

Armed Services ~ Calendar ~ Columbus Day

Foundation

21st century ~ Anti-Bias ~ Cancer Research & Prevention

Cooley's Anemia ~ Italian Studies ~ Mental Health

Scholarships ~ Torracco Food Bank/Shelter

About UNICO ~ UNICO is the largest Italian American Service Organization in the United States
Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity, Opportunity

UNICO was founded on October 10, 1922 in Waterbury, Connecticut. A group of 15 men, led by Dr. Anthony P. Vastola, came together to create what has become a very special and very proud organization. It was Dr. Vastola's dream to create an Italian American service organization to engage in charitable works, support higher education, and perform patriotic deeds. Our motto is "Service Above Self".

Each year, the UNICO Foundation and the UNICO National Chapters across the country donate approximately \$1 million to various charities. Scholarships continue to be the primary focus of UNICO, as roughly one-third of all monies raised goes to deserving students from all of the chapter locations throughout the chain.

UNICO National has funded major research in Cooley's Anemia and Mental Health. Through its association with the Jimmy Valvano Foundation it has funded over 10, \$50,000 grants to help find a cure for Cancer. These worthy areas continue to receive generous support from the chapters and its members for these worthy causes.

If you would like to attend one of our meetings to see if you might be interested in joining UNICO, please contact us through any member, or through our email. We would be honored to have you as a member of our Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter.

A Special thanks

To our 2019-2020 Sponsors and Supporters

We sincerely appreciated your generosity

For those that would like to help us in 2020-2021

You can reach us at

PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

*Or you can ask any chapter member for more information
Just \$100 gets you in every issue of this newsletter for our UNICO year
2020-2021*

