



UNICO NATIONAL

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

Monthly Minutes
 June 12, 2024 ~ 2nd Wednesday

Date May 8, 2024
Place Holy Cross Church Woodland Park, NJ
Prayer 7:10 pm John Morano
Flag Salute 7:12 pm John Morano
Dinner/Meeting 7:15 pm Dinner / Meeting 7:40

Members & Guests in Attendance

Members (49) at meeting 25
 Guests at meeting 0
 Member % at meeting 51%

Executive Board

<u>Attendance at meetings</u>		9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24
President:	Bucci	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	X	😊	😊
1 st VP:	Criscione	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
2 nd VP:	J. Benvenuti	x	😊	x	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊
Secretary:	Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Treasurer:	Ponchak	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Sgt.At-Arms:	Morano	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊

Delegates at Meetings

1. Sal Benvenuti	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊
2. Jean Chomko	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
3. Pat Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊

Board of Directors at meetings (6 past Chapter Presidents)

Eileen Wood	x	x	x	n/a	x	x	x	x	x	x
Carmen Gaita	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊
Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
John Barbieri	x	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Steve Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊



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Past Chapter Presidents in attendance at meetings

	9/'23	10/'23	11/'23	12/'23	1/'24	2/'24	3/'24	4/'24	5/'24	6/'24
Joe Agresti PNP	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
John Barbieri	x	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Sal Benvenuti	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊
Carmen Criscione	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Carmen Gaita	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊
John Morano	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Steve Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Chuck Russo	x	😊	😊	n/a	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Angelo Verrone	x	😊	😊	n/a	x	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Eileen Wood	x	x	x	n/a	x	x	x	X	x	x

Opening Remarks

- **President Dominick Bucci**
 - President Dominick commented that he found in his possession the original charter of our chapter from 1972. Dominick also welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- **1st VP Carmen Criscione**
 - Carmen thanked Dominick for his 2 years of presidency to our chapter. Carmen congratulated the parents and recipients of our chapter scholarships. Carmen thanked Chuck and the committee for a great scholarship dinner and evening.
- **2nd VP Joe Benvenuti**
 - Joe welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a great and safe summer. “See you in September”.



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Secretary Minutes

Secretary: Steve Pelonero PNP

- Steve noted that the minutes were sent to everyone in an email from our May meeting.
- He also noted that they are also on our chapter website.
- Motion to accept was made by:
 - 1st Joe Agresti
 - 2nd Frank Capalbo
- All were in favor.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak

- Bruce reported that he had sent out the treasurer's report to all members in an email.
- Bruce reported on the bank balances
- He noted that the balance in our account shows the golfer money and unpaid scholarships
- Motion to accept by:
 - 1st Carmen Gaita
 - 2nd Frank Capalbo
- All were in favor.

Bills and Communications: John Morano

- Steve Pelonero reported that dues notice reminders went out in an email and also via USPS

Chapter Budget

- (N/A)

Chapter Elections: Nominating chair to be appointed nu Chapter President

- N/A



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Fundraising Committees

- **Community Service Day: Chuck Russo**
 - Chuck reported that he received thank you letters from St. James Church in Totowa and also From St. George Church in Little Falls.
 - Chuck noted that we had great publicity in the local newspapers.
- **Corn Hole: John Barbieri**
 - John reported that there will be no report until next year
- **Food Pantry: Carmen Gaita, Patricia Pelonero**
 - Pat reported that she had gift cards for the Pantries, and she will visit and drop them off. She reminded that St. Agnes and Holy Angels had Food pantry closets and asked members to bring non-perishables direct to them during the summer months as we do not meet during July and August.
- **Golf Outing: Joe Barone**
 - Joe reminded everyone that the golf out was Monday, June 17th. There is a 8 am registration. With a 9 am tee time. And a beefsteak at 3 pm at the Brownstone. Joe remarked that there were many gifts, 60 sponsors, 72 players, and at the moment there was \$7,000 raised for next years scholarships. Joe asked if someone, one of the workers, would like to take photos of the foursomes (with names) for publication in the local papers. Joe said that the golf course would like to (needs) the sponsors signs delivered the day before the outing and to see Tony at the course.
- **Holiday Cheer: Joe Benvenuti, Sal Benvenuti, Carmen Gaita**
 - N/A
- **Overseas Soldier Program: To be appointed**
 - Roni thanked the members for bringing snacks to the meeting and that she will het them sent.



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- **Scholarship: Chuck Russo**
 - Chuck thanked everyone for attending and also for his committees help. He said the National President of UNICO also attended. He did remark that he would like to see more members attend as it is the culmination of all of our hard work during the year which should be celebrated by everyone. He reported that there were 8 college recipients and two Brian Piccolo Awardees. There was also the usual Presidents Cocktail Hour for members only. He reported that we just about broke even financially for the night.

Non-Fundraising Committees

- **Good & Welfare: Joe Benvenuti**
 - There was no news reported to Joe. Joe did say that he talked to chapter member Tony Orlando and that he is doing well. John Morano reported that member Jerry Gaeta was in the hospital for Kidney Stones and Joe Benvenuti said that no one told him that otherwise he would have sent something to him.
- **Italian Heritage: Angelo Verrone**
 - Angelo reported that he is still working with PVHS to have a heritage event with the Italian Club, hopefully in October which is Italian Heritage month.
- **Italian Studies: Cav. Joe Agresti PNP**
 - He reported that our Study Abroad student should be attending one of our upcoming meetings, probably in October, but more information will follow when it gets closer.
- **Membership: John Barbieri**
 - John reported that there are 49 members with one new application received tonight to make it 50. John wished a Happy Birthday to our June birthday members: all are shown in the June Newsletter.
 - John reported that he received no applications from the college scholarship awardees.
 - The average age of our chapter is 72.
 - The breakdown of our chapter is:
 - 34 regular paid members ~ 7 lifetime members ~ 9 youth (25 and younger) members.



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- **Newsletter & Website: Steve Pelonero PNP**
 - Steve reported that everything is in order with the newsletter and chapter website.
 - The website is now at 91,915 visits.
 - All dates of our events, and monthly minutes are also on the website.
 - The chapter website also has a member section where you can access member information.
- **Public Relations: Christina Castillo and Roni Corrado**
 - Photos were submitted to, and printed by the Italian Tribune
 - Also some were submitted from our District pasta Night, Our Food Pantry Drive, along with information of our Golf Outing and Corn Hole event

District and National Events

- **National News**
 - Joe Agresti asked if anyone came up with and/or sent an ad journal page in?
 - Steve Pelonero said that he would come up with something and send it to the executive board for approval before being sent to UNICO National.
 - Joe Agresti said that he is working on a prospective awardee for the National Coccia award
 - Joe Benvenuti noted that we needed to decide what and how we needed to vote as delegates on the proposed National amendments. More on this can be seen in the new business section of these minutes
- **District News**
 - There will be a district meeting on June 27th in Sparta on the Boardwalk on Lake Mohawk. It is sponsored by the Sparta Chapter. Those interested in going need to reply to our chapter president so that they can give a head count to the District Governor.

Old Business

- Claudine Stefanelli reported that she and her committee came up with a sample 50/50 for \$10. And that she just had to go to the LF own Hall with our Gaming License to get the permit. As of now the drawing date is set for December 4th, 2024 at 7 PM at the Ties in Singac.



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New Business

- Amendments were discussed that are to be voted on by our chapter delegates at the convention. The membership feels, and voted that we vote Yes on the 1st, and No on the 2nd and 3rd. All were in favor.
- Aldo discussed on how we, as a chapter, donate to what charities at the convention and how much. A look at the past 5 charities was ok to donate \$200 each with approval at a meeting by our chapter executive board.
- Also discussed was the fact that a new chapter was to be chartered into our UNICO family. On June 27th, 2024, the Randolph NJ Chapter will be chartered and a voted was taken to give our traditional start up gift to them of \$200. Steve Pelonero said that he was going to attend the chapter and that he would present it in person that day.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made at 8:20 pm by:
 - 1st Joe Agresti
 - 2nd Jay SistiAll were in favor.

Respectfully Taken by

Steve Pelonero PNP / Chapter Secretary

Meeting Attendance

See the next page for this year's meeting attendance

Note: perfect yearlong attendance is shown by the members highlighted in yellow



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		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Total	Members	19	23	23	n/a	23	25	24	24	23	25	
Agresti	Joseph	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Allora	Carmen				n/a							0
Bacchioni	Christopher				n/a							0
Barbieri	John		1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Barone	Elaine		1	1	n/a			1	1	1	1	6
Barone	Joseph	1	1	1	n/a		1	1	1	1	1	8
Benvenuti	Joseph		1		n/a	1	1	1	1		1	6
Benvenuti	Salvatore	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1		1	8
Bifalco	Mark				n/a							0
Bucci	Dominick	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1		1	1	8
Campagna	Juliana				n/a							0
Campen	Domenica				n/a	1						1
Capalbo	Frank	1		1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Carbonelli	Michael	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Castillo	Christina	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Cervino	Peter				n/a	1	1		1		1	4
Cestone	James		1	1	n/a			1				3
Chomko	Jean	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Corrado	Roni				n/a				1	1	1	3
Corsetto	Brianna				n/a							0
Criscione	Carmen	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Dransfield	Danielle				n/a							0
Eoepchino	Kyle				n/a							0
Ermolowich	William				n/a							0
Gaeta	Gerardo	1		1	n/a	1		1	1	1		6
Gaeta	Jessica				n/a							0
Gaita Jr	Carmen	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1		1	8
Kazmark	Keith				n/a							0
Klosek	Emilia				n/a		1					1
Longo	Pete	1		1	n/a							2
McInerney	Cielle				n/a							0
Meletta	Connor				n/a							0
Morano	Christina Lee				n/a	1						1
Morano	John	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
OHara	Joyce	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Orlando	Anthony				n/a							0
Panicucci	Marisa	1	1		n/a							2
Pelonero	Patricia	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Pelonero	Steven	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Polizzotto	Philip				n/a							0
Ponchak	Bruce	1	1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Ragusso	Michaela				n/a							0
Russo	Chuck		1	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Sisti	Gisella	1	1	1	n/a	1	1		1	1	1	8
Stefanelli	Claudine		1		n/a		1	1	1	1	1	6
Tosi	Evelyn	1	1		n/a	1	1			1	1	6
Verrone	Angelo		1	1	n/a		1	1	1	1	1	7
Wood	Eileen				n/a							0
Youngster	Henry			1	n/a		1	1		1		4