

April ~ 2016
Year 13
Issue 127

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our April 2016 Monthly Newsletter



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President's Message

Hello UNICAN's,

April is a busy month with lots of events happening. Last month we held our; "The Big Chill" wine raffle. It certainly was profitable, but unfortunately we sold about 100 less tickets. I will leave the details up to Carmen Criscione at our next monthly meeting on the 13th of April.

The executive Board met on the 30th along with the nominating committee. As I will be moving on and Bruce Ponchak will be assuming the President role starting July, Carmen Gaita will be moving into the 1st Vice President position. Eileen Wood showed interest in moving into the 2nd Vice President position. Joe McGill and Dominick Bucci will stay in their positions. So what this means, the Secretary position is open. Therefore, Eileen Wood sent out a memo on the 31st asking if anyone is interested in this position. We would like to know before the meeting on the 13th so that we can place the name on the slate which will be presented at the next meeting on the 13th. If anyone is interested in any executive board positions, at the May meeting they can identify interest and at that time we will hold an election if someone is nominated from the floor. If the slate is accepted as is, the secretary will cast one vote and it will be final.

Regarding the open secretary position, I have made it very simple to complete the minutes and that is the main responsibility for the secretary. So please contact, Joe Agresti, Angelo Verrone or John Morano if you are interested in filling this position before our next meeting on the 13th.

Upcoming events: Bus Ride to the Sands, our Community Service Day, and the Flapjack Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's. Please be sure to invite your family and friends. Dates and times are shown on the Upcoming Events section.

John Barbieri



Upcoming Events – Local and National

April 12 ... Tuesday ... **3rd of 4 NJ District IV Meetings**
The Wayne Chapter is the host

April 13 ... Wednesday ... **Monthly chapter meeting**
Holy Cross Church, Woodland Park
 7:00 pm Dinner ... 8:00 pm Meeting

April 17 ... Sunday ... **Sands Casino Bus Ride**
Save the Date ... The flier is on our website ~ www.PVUNICO.com

April 23 ... Saturday ... **UNICO National Community Service Day**
*Our community service will be a food drive @ ShopRite in Little Falls
 Come visit us and help us supply the needy*

April 30 ... Saturday ... **Applebee in Totowa Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**
The flier is on our website ~ www.PVUNICO.com

Birthdays

Happy April Birthday

Derek LoRe - 4/1

Steven Pelonero - 4/3

Michael Conti - 4/6

Michael D'Antuono - 4/16

Bruce Ponchak - 4/27

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.

Two pictures in particular are on page 4 of this newsletter.

- www.PVUNICO.com
- www.UNICO.org
- www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com

Community Service Day **April 23, Saturday**

The 4th annual Chapter Food Drive (Community Service Day) will be held on Saturday, April 23. This year we will be collecting at Little Falls ShopRite only.

We will begin setting up at 8AM; we will continue until approximately 4PM (depending on number of volunteers, weather, etc).

If you have already volunteered to participate, you have probably received a tentative schedule. This is flexible and with enough notice can be adjusted. If you have not already volunteered and would like to do so (especially in the afternoon hours), please let me know. The important thing is that as many of us as possible try to get involved and, in the UNICO spirit of "Service Above Self", continue to make the food drive as successful as it has been in the past.

*Please note: This is a rain or shine event. There is no Rain Date.
 Grazie mille.*

Chuck, Committee Chair

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

“Service Above Self”



Who's Who

Our 2015-2016 Executive Board

President	John Barbieri
1st Vice President	Bruce Ponchak
2nd Vice President	Carmen Gaita Jr.
Treasurer	Joseph McGill
Recording Secretary	Eileen Wood
Sgt. At-Arms	Dominick Bucci
Corresponding Secretary	Christina Castillo

Our 2015-2016 Board of Directors

Robert Appaluccio
 Steve Pelonero
 Carmen Criscione
 Salvatore Benvenuti
 Angelo Verrone
 Charles Russo

Our 2015-2016 Chapter Delegates

Salvatore Benvenuti ~ Convention
 Jean Chomko ~ Convention (alternate)

Fundraising Committee Heads

Applebee's Flapjack & Pancake Breakfast	Dominick Bucci
"The Big Chill" Wine Raffle	Carmen Criscione
Bus Rides	Elaine Barone, Mary Benvenuti, Joyce O'Hara
Golf Outing	Joe Barone
Holiday Donations	Robert Appaluccio
Modell's	Roni Corrado
Overseas Armed Service Care Packages	Pat Corrado
Wine Tasting	Joe Benvenuti, Angelo Verrone

Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

Community Service Day (April 23).....	Chuck Russo
Food Pantry	Angelo Verrone
Good and Welfare	Sal Nocella
Italian Heritage with Our Youth at P.V.H.S.	Angelo Verrone
Membership	Jay Sisti
Newsletter	Steve Pelonero
Scholarship / Brian Piccolo	Joe Agresti PNP/ Chuck Russo
Study Abroad Scholarship (Montclair & Seton Hall)	Joseph Agresti PNP
Website	Steven Pelonero / John Barbieri

Food Pantry

Please don't forget about our UNICO Phil Arena Food Pantry ... Your non-perishable food donation will restock it

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

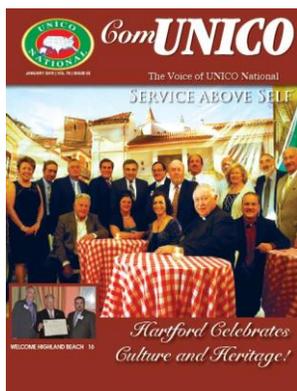
Did You Know

The first requirement of becoming a UNICO National President is that you must have been at least a chapter president

There is no absentee ballot at a UNICO Convention. You must be present to vote

ComUNICO

You can read all of the ComUNICO issues, online, by going to www.UNICO.org



Mid Year Board Meeting & Marconi Award



Above Left photo: All the PNP's (Past National Presidents) in attendance at the Mid-Year Board Meeting in Atlantic City NJ, weekend of March 4th. Our chapter PNP is Joe Agresti, top row, 2nd from the right. How many other National PNP's do you know?



Above Right photo: Marconi Award Recipient Jon Odorico from University of Wisconsin, with Passaic Valley Chapter President John Barbieri, at the Mid-Year Board Meeting in Atlantic City

All of the pictures from the weekend can be seen in the Photo Gallery on our chapter website www.PVUNICO.com

Below Left Photo: Attendance at the Mid-Year Board meeting was great. It's a time to conduct National Business, adjust the national budget, choose the National Awards recipients, and meet lots of other UNICO members from across the country

Below Right Photo: Sal Benvenuti at the Mid-Year, on the floor during Saturday's general Session, reporting on the 501's of chapters across the country



Chapter Meeting ~ March 9, 2016 Book Signing & “Big Chill Raffle”



Above Left Photo: Richard Muti, Author (left), gave a history of the life of Frank Sinatra. Pictured with Richard is PV Chapter President John Barbieri

Above Right Photo: Our “Big Chill Raffle” where one lucky person (Mike Sisco of the Bloomfield Chapter) was picked as this years winner. Pictured from the left are: John Barbieri (chapter president), Joyce O’Hara (committee member), Carmen Criscione (committee chair), Angelo Verrone (committee member)

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.

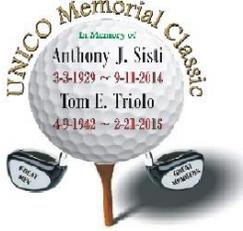
UNICO National has funded major research in Cooley’s Anemia and Mental Health. Through its association with the Jimmy Valvano Foundation it has funded over 10, \$50,000 grants to help find a cure for Cancer. These worthy areas continue to receive generous support from the chapters and its members for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

Thank You to our 2015-2016 Sponsors and Supporters

 *In memory of* 
Thomas Triolo
 Long Time Member of Passaic Valley UNICO
 April 9, 1942 ~ February 21, 2015
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 3-3-1929 ~ 9-11-2014
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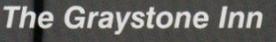
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Please ask any member for more information ... or send us an email to ~ PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

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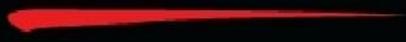
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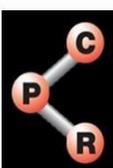
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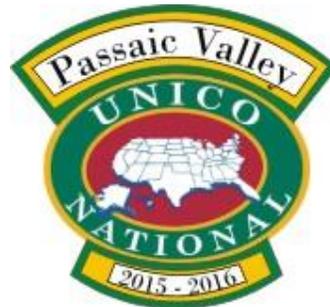
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