



UNICO NATIONAL

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

Monthly Minutes June 9, 2021 ~ 2nd Wednesday

Date June 9, 2021, ~ Wednesday
Place Francesco's Restaurant, Woodland Park
Prayer Jim Minnella, Sgt.At-Arms
Flag Salute Jim Minnella, Sgt. At-Arms
Dinner 7:00 pm
Meeting 8:00 pm

Members & Guests in Attendance

Members at meeting	28
Guests at meeting	0
Total (Roster is at 49)	28.
Percentage at meeting	57%

Attendance at meetings	9/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	1/21	2/21	3/21	4/21	5/21	6/21
President: Eileen Wood	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊
1 st VP: Pat Ligouri	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	x
2 nd VP: Dominick Bucci	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Secretary: Steve Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊
Sgt.At-Arms: Jim Minnella	😊	😊	😊	x	x	x	x	😊	😊	😊

Delegates at Meetings

1. Jean Chomko	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	x
2. Joyce O'Hara	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊

Board of Directors at meetings (6 past Chapter Presidents)

Carmen Gaita	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊
John Barbieri	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Bob Appaluccio	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Steve Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Carmen Criscione	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊



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Past Chapter Presidents in attendance at meetings

	9/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	1/21	2/21	3/21	4/21	5/21	6/21
Joe Agresti PNP	x	x	😊	x	x	x	x	😊	😊	😊
Bob Appaluccio	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
John Barbieri	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Sal Benvenuti	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊
Carmen Criscione	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊
John Morano	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Steve Pelonero	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Bruce Ponchak	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊
Chuck Russo	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
Angelo Verrone	x	😊	😊	😊	x	😊	😊	x	😊	😊

Opening Remarks

- **President Eileen Wood:**
 - Eileen welcomed everyone to last meeting of our UNICO year (July through June). Eileen also wished a Happy Father's Day to all the dads in the room.
 - Eileen also noted that the chapter was still in need of a secretary. Someone hopefully stands up to our motto of Service Above Self.
- **1st VP Pat Ligouri:**
 - Not present due to a sump pump failure in the house. Pat sends his regards and is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Scholarship Dinner on Wednesday, June 16th.
- **2nd VP Dominick Bucci:**
 - Dominick welcomed everyone and also wished everyone a Happy Father's Day. He also said that he was looking forward to seeing everyone at the Scholarship Dinner.



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Secretary Minutes

Secretary: Steve Pelonero

- Steve reported that the minutes were emailed to all chapter members as well as being on our chapter website.
- Motion to accept by:
 - 1st Jim Minnella
 - 2nd Joe BaroneAll were in favor.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak

Bruce emailed the minutes to all chapter members.

- Motion to accept by:
 - 1st Joyce O'Hara
 - 2nd Sal BenvenutiAll were in favor.

Chapter Budget

- No report.

Bills and Communications

- Eileen reported that we received two thank you letters from two of our scholarship recipients.
- Thank you notes were received from: The 1st Reformed Church and The United Methodist Church for our donations to their food pantries.
- We still have more UNICO Foundation Raffle Tickets @ \$20 each if anyone is interested.



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Fundraising Committees

- **Holiday Cheer: Bob Appaluccio**
 - No report.

- **Food Pantry: Roni Corrado**
 - Roni reported via a typed report that with the monies collected at the April Community Service Day, we were able to provide \$225 in gift certificates to EACH of the food pantries of: First Reformed Church of Little Falls, Passaic County Veterans Military Assistance Program, and St. Joseph Home for the Elderly in Totowa.
 - Roni sends a thousand thanks to the members for sustaining this endeavor.

- **Overseas Soldier Program: Roni Corrado**
 - Roni reported via a typed report that a package was sent to Anthony Penque in May. In her absence at this June meeting, Joe Benvenuti said that he would collect any goodies or cash that members want to donate. Another package will be put together to go out to him immediately.

- **Golf Outing: Joe Barone**
 - Joe Barone reported that as of 06-09-2021 we have 18 teams with 69 players.
 - Of the 69 players, only 31 have paid .
 - We currently have 42 sponsors totaling \$4697.50.
 - There will be a continental Breakfast starting at 9 am.
 - Everyone will receive two drink tickets to be used on the course from the drink cart.
 - Golf is with a 10 am Shotgun Best Ball format.
 - Dinner is at the Brownstone at 4 pm.
 - We are always and still looking for small price dinner giveaways.

- **Community Service Day: Pat Liguori**
 - No report



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Non-Fundraising Committees

- **Scholarship: Carmen Gaita**
 - Carmen Gaita was happy to say that we will be giving out 7 scholarship this year as well as the 2 Brian Piccolo awards. We have over 80 people attending the awards dinner on Wednesday, June 16th at 7 pm at the Barnyard in Totowa. Cost is \$30 for a member and \$40 for a non-member.
 - Carmen thanked his committee: Joe Benvenuti, Joe Agresti, Chuck Russo, Angelo Verrone and pat Liguori for their hard work and time these past few months.
 - Carmen also thanked the members for supporting the raffle along with the donations, especially to Chuck Russo and Tony Orlando. Our winner won \$1,850 which the winning ticket was drawn at Joe Benvenuti's house by a non-member.
 - Our officer installation will also be taking place that evening.
 - Our UNICO National president Dr. Frank DeFrank is planning to attend.
- **Italian Heritage: Angelo Verrone**
 - Angelo reported that he is looking into a heritage event with PV High School
 - Steve Pelonero reported again that the Little Falls Council has asked us if there was interest in an Italian Flag Raising. Steve urged that for it to be successful that we should have as many of our members there to support it for possible future years as well. More information hopefully at the September meeting
- **Italian Studies: Joe Agresti PNP**
 - No report.
- **Good and Welfare: Sal Nocella**
 - No issues, hence, no report
- **Membership: John Barbieri**
 - John reported that we are at 48 members. John wished a happy birthday to our June birthday members.
Our average age is 72. It is 68 with our 7 youth members.
- **Newsletter & Website: Steve Pelonero**
 - Steve reported that all was up to date on both the website and newsletter.
 - All minutes and newsletters are on the website as well.
 - Our website is at 86,603 as of June 9 (meeting day), which is up 90 visits from the May meeting.



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District and National Events

- **District News**

- Joe Agresti reported that our NJ District IV is still looking into doing their Christmas Dinner Fundraiser for our Special Friends.
- Joe also reported that the Passaic-Clifton Chapter is looking into a District bus ride in December to Mulberry Street in NYC, which would then go to Bryant Park rather than to the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree

- **National News**

- Joe Agresti reported that he is still taking ad journal pages to help support the cost of the convention.
- Steve said that the Bocce/Cigar Fundraiser went well. It was hosted by NJ District XI and that only 2 members from our chapter showed up. Our chapter did however support it with a \$200 donation.
- Steve reported that our dues billing (1/2 of our members) is due by July 1. Bruce said that it was already sent in.
- Eileen Wood said that she filled out and sent in the chapter election form which shows our officers and chapter information.

Old Business

- No old business

New Business

- Eileen Wood again reported that we are still in need of a member to step up and volunteer as our chapter secretary.
- It was brought up that our chapter will be celebrating its 50th year of Service Above Self. A committee will be formed to discuss.
- Steve Pelonero reported that dues are now due and that we in turn will pay UNICO national on July 1st ... 15 members have paid so far.



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Meeting Attendance

Twenty-eight (28) members were in attendance.

Joe	Agresti
Bob	Appaluccio
John	Barbieri
Joe	Barone
Sal	Benvenuti
Joe	Benvenuti
Mark	BiFalco
Dominick	Bucci
Frank	Capalbo
Christina	Castillo
Carmen	Criscione
Bill	Ermolowich
Jerry	Gaeta
Carmen	Gaita

Dominick	Giuliano
Jim	Minnella
John	Morano
Sal	Nocella
Joyce	O'Hara
Tony	Orlando
Steve	Pelonero
Bruce	Ponchak
Anthony	Ribauda
Chuck	Russo
Jay	Sisti
Angelo	Verrone
Eileen	Wood
Henry	Youngster

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn @ 8:47 pm

- 1st John Barbieri
 - 2nd Sal Benvenuti
- All were in favor.

Respectfully Taken by

Steve Pelonero, Chapter Secretary