



UNICO NATIONAL

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

MONTHLY MINUTES December 12, 2018

Date December 12, 2018
Place Hollywood Pizza, Fairfield
Time 7:00 pm Abbreviated Meeting and Dinner
Opened 7:00 pm President Carmen Gaita
Prayer 7:01 pm Sgt. At-Arms Dominick Bucci
Flag Salute 7:02 pm Sgt. At-Arms Dominick Bucci

Guests & Members

Christmas Dinner

Guests: 18 guests which includes 1 prospective member Rick Lijoi
Members: 20 members in attendance
Total at meeting: 38 total at meeting

Executive Board

| <u>Attendance at meetings</u> | 9/18 | 10/18 | 11/18 | 12/18 | 1/19 | 2/19 | 3/19 | 4/19 | 5/19 | 6/18 |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| President: Carmen Gaita | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| 1 st VP: Eileen Wood | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| 2 nd VP: Pat Ligouri | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| Secretary: Steve Pelonero | ☺ | ☺ | --- | ☺ | | | | | | |
| Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak | ☺ | ☺ | ? | --- | | | | | | |
| 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 | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ |
| Carmen Criscione | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ |
| Sal Benvenuti | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ |
| 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 | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| Carmen Criscione | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| John Morano | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| Steve Pelonero | ☺ | ☺ | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |
| Bruce Ponchak | ☺ | ☺ | ? | --- | | | | | | |
| Chuck Russo | ☺ | ☺ | ? | --- | | | | | | |
| Angelo Verrone | ☺ | --- | ? | ☺ | | | | | | |

Opening Remarks

- President Carmen Gaita:
 - Carmen welcomed everyone. He noted that this December meeting would be an abbreviated meeting so that we can start our holiday festivities. He thanked Joe Agresti PNP for handling the arrangements for tonight's dinner. He thanked Sal Benvenuti for donating the wine.
 - Carmen noted that January's meeting will be at Amore in Woodland Park (the 2nd Wednesday). If anyone has a request for a different place, they are to get a written quote from that restaurant.
- 1st VP Eileen Wood:
 - Merry Christmas w/no report
- 2nd VP Patrick Liguori:
 - Merry Christmas w/no report

Secretary Minutes

Secretary: Steve Pelonero

Steve asked for a motion to waive the minutes from the November meeting due to this December's abbreviated Christmas Dinner Meeting

1st Pat Liguori

2nd Jim Minnella

Discussion: None

All in favor: Yes



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Treasurer Report

Treasurer: Bruce Ponchak (not in attendance)

President Carmen asked that the treasurers report also be waived, as was the secretary report

1st Joe Agrestu PNP

2nd Joe benvenuti

Discussion: None

All in favor: Yes

Good and Welfare: Sal Nocella

- Sal Nocella: No report
- President Carmen asked everyone to keep Eileen Wood in their prayers as she is going in for a hip replacement soon
- John Morano remarked that there was a family in town who had a permanently handicapped child who is wheel chair bound and the family could use some financial aid for a renovation so that their bathroom is handicap accesible. He suggested that \$500 dollars be donated. The money can be taken from our Emergency Fund, which was started just for this type of need. A motion was made by Jim Minnella and 2ndd by John Barbieri. All were in favor

Bills & Communications

- A thank you was received from UNICO National President Lee Norelli for our donation at the Meet the President Night
- A thank you was received by our NJ IV District Governor, to the chapters that were there, for having our District Christmas Dinner & Party for our Special Need Friends

Standing Committees

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



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Fundraising Committees

- **Community Service: Chuck Russo**
 - No report
- **Dine with UNICO: Joe Benvenuti, Mark BiFalco, Jean Chomko**
 - No reports
- **Dinner for Two: Carmen Criscione**
 - Being worked on. Start asking for gift certificates. Drawing will be July 11
- **Food Pantry: Roni Corrado**
 - Roni reported that Holy Angels is in need and that donations can be brought directly to the pantry or to any meeting
 - Roni also reported that there was a shortage of Turkeys for Thanksgiving and asked if our chapter could possibly get some more for the Christmas season. President Carmen said that the executive board met and remarked that the Pasta Dinner fundraiser made more than the budgeted item said, so that there were funds available if voted on by the membership. Also 50% of tonight's 50/50, if there is one, can also be allocated to the Turkey purchases. A motion was made by Sal Benvenuti and 2nd by Eileen Wood. All were in favor
- **Golf Outing: Joe Barone**
 - No report
- **Holiday Donations: Bob Appaluccio**
 - In Bob's absence, Roni Corrado gave a report. She thanked everyone who gave and also for the budgeted line item. Six families were given gift cards. Five of them at \$450 each and one at \$600. Five of them were single parents. One was homeless and living in a shelter. One of the families has a child with brain cancer
- **Modells: Roni Corrado**
 - No report
- **Overseas Soldiers: Pat Corrado**
 - No report



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-
- **Pasta Dinner: Dominick Bucci**
 - Dominick gave his report. We made a profit. A breakdown of the event was passed out
 - **Pig Roast: Joe Agresti PNP / Jim Minella**
 - Joe reported that our 1st Annual Pig Roast Fundraiser will be held January 26 in Woodland park. Tickets are now available at \$50.00 each. Joe urged everyone to try to attend as this is one of our major fundraisers where we are then able to do what our chapter does and gives out to those in need. Please contact him (Joe) with how many tickets you need. Space is limited so call soon
 - **Toys for Tots: Eileen Wood**
 - A new project for our chapter is Toys for Tots. Unwrapped toys were brought to this December meeting in which turn they will be brought to and disbursed to children by the Marines
 - **2020 Vision Wine Raffle: Steve Pelonero**
 - No report

Non-Fundraising Committees

- **Christmas Meeting Dinner: Joe Agresti PNP**
 - 38 people in attendance
- **Christmas Tree Lighting: Joe Agresti PNP**
 - Joe reported that there were two tree lightings. One in Woodland park. One in Little Falls (very cold in Little Falls). Candy canes were passed out to everyone
- **Easter Egg Hunt: Joe Agresti PNP & Pat Ligouri**
 - No report
- **December Holiday Trip: Joe Agresti**
 - Joe reported that 14 people were in attendance
- **Heritage Day: Steve Pelonero**
 - No report



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- **Membership: John Barbieri**
 - John reported that we were at 47 members
 - Three birthdays: two were student youth members, the third was regular member Jean Chomko
 - It was reported and noted that as of the UNICO National deadline of November 30th, our chapter has dropped 4 members: 3 student youth members and 1 regular member
- **Newsletter: Steve Pelonero**
 - No report
- **Website: Steve Pelonero**
 - No report

National News

- No report

District News

- Chapter President Carmen thanked everyone who attended the District Christmas Dinner at the Chandelier which is held annually for our Special Need Friends
- Carmen noted that the next (2nd) District IV meeting will be on January 10th, in Bloomfield, hosted by the Bloomfield Chapter, at the Brookdale Tavern on 1099 Broad Street. It is a BYO



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Old Business

- No report

New Business

- President Carmen reported that our chapter will now have, on a yearly basis, a new chapter only award to a member, who is not an officer, who exemplifies "Service Above Self". This year it will be presented at the Pig Roast Dinner to Roni Corrado
- Steve Pelonero, PV chapter member and UNICO National 1st VP, thanked everyone for their Service. He noted that part of National's reaching out is to emphasize, as our chapter shows in our reports: Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity and Opportunity

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn @ 7:35 pm

1st Joe Agresti PNP

2nd Eileen Wood

All in favor

Respectfully Taken by

Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter Secretary