January ~ 2017 Year 14 Issue 137

Passaic Valley UNICO Our February 2017 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO PO Box 341 Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving Little Falls Totowa Woodland Park

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www.PVUNICO.com www.UNICOmembers.com www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO www.UNICO.org PassaicValleyUNICO @gmail.com

President's Message

Hello UNICAN's,

Website

Website

Website

Website

Email

It's hard to believe that the first month of 2017 is history. We have a number of events planned for 2017 and I hope everyone can take part and enjoy them. The first event is our Comedy Night which Joe Mc Gill is in the process of finalizing. Our Community Service Day is scheduled for Saturday April 22nd and the Applebee's Pancake Breakfast is set for the following Saturday April 29th. Our Bus Ride Committee, Wine & Dine Committee and Golf Committee are putting their events together for May and June. So, you can see we're going to have a busy year.

Our meeting last month was our belated Christmas Party held at Casa Bella Restaurant. We had the honor of having UNICO National President Dominick Nicastro and his wife, Alina, in attendance. I would like to thank Eileen Wood for making all of the arrangements.

On January 26th, we had a fund raiser at Maggie's Towne Tavern which was extremely well attended by members, family and friends. I would like to thank Henry Youngster for setting everything up and running the show.

Our next meeting is on February 8th at Holy Cross Church at 7 PM. A few of Dr. Mary Ann Re's students will be making a presentation on their study abroad experiences so I hope everyone can make it.

Bruce Ponchak



February Birthdays

02/02 Gisella Sisti 02/02 Chuck Russo 02/08 Eileen Wood 02/12 Joyce O'Hara 02/15 James Cestone 02/22 John Morano

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.PVUNICO.com
- www.UNICO.org
- <u>www.UNICO-</u>
 <u>NJdistrictIV.4mg.com</u>

Food Pantry

Please don't forget about our UNICO Phil Arena Food Pantry ... Your nonperishable 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 2

Upcoming Events – Local and National

<u>February 8, 2017</u> ... 2nd Wednesday ... <u>Chapter Monthly Meeting</u> ... Holy Cross Church ... 7:00 pm

February 14, 2017 ... Tuesday ... Valentine's Day

<u>March 17 & 18, 2017</u> ... Friday & Saturday ... <u>March Mid-Year Board Meeting</u> ... At the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, FL ... Delegates, members, and non-members are to register for the meeting with the National Office ... Book your room direct with the hotel. You will get the UNICO hotel room rate if you book before Feb 21, 2017 ... Call the National office if there any questions

<u>April 22, 2017</u> ... Saturday ... <u>UNICO National Community Service Day</u> ... More information to follow

<u>April 29, 2017</u> ... Saturday ... <u>Applebee's pancake Breakfast</u> ... More information to follow

More: Bus Rides, Golf Outing, Wine & Dine – More info will follow

If you are "not" a member and would like to attend any of our meetings as our guest, please contact any of our Chapter Officers for more information ... Or email us at <u>PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com</u>



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

"Service Above Self"

Passaic Valley UNICO Monthly Newsletter

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Things for UNICO Members & Chapters to know:

The Mid-Year National Board meeting is set for March 17 & 18 in Orlando

Submissions for Amendment changes and Award Recipients must be submitted by March 1st to the National Office and signed by the Chapter president and chapter secretary

If you plan on attending the Mid-Year Meeting, you need to (must) pre-register with the National Office. You also need to book your own room nights

Call the National Office if in doubt or if you have any questions

ComUNICO

You can now read the ComUNICO Magazine online, just by clicking on the cover below



Who's Who

Our 2016-2017 Executive Board

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

Our 2016-2017 Board of Directors

John Barbieri	Chapter President	2014 & 2015
Robert Appaluccio	Chapter President	2012 & 2013
Steve Pelonero	Chapter President	2010 & 2011
Carmen Criscione	Chapter President	2008 & 2009
Salvatore Benvenuti	Chapter President	2006 & 2007
Angelo Verrone	Chapter President	2004 & 2005

Our 2016-2017 Chapter Delegates

President Bruce Ponchak

- .. Delegate Sal Benvenuti
- .. Delegate Dominick Bucci
- .. Delegate Eileen Wood
- Alternate Delegate John Barbieri
- Alternate Delegate Jean Chomko
- Alternate Delegate Joe McGill
- ... Alternate Delegate Joyce O'Hara

Fundraising Committee Heads

Applebee's Flapjack & Pancak	e Breakfast Dominick Bucci
Bus Rides	Elaine Barone, Mary Benvenuti, Joyce O'Hara
Golf Outing	Joe Barone
Holiday Donations	Robert Appaluccio
Modell's	
Overseas Armed Service Care	Packages Pat Corrado

Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

Community Service Day (April)	Chuck Russo
Food Pantry	Roni Corrado
Good and Welfare	Sal Nocella
Italian Heritage with Our Youth at P.V.H.S	Angelo Verrone
Membership	John Barbieri
Newsletter	Steve Pelonero
Scholarship / Brian Piccolo	Joe Agresti PNP/ Chuck Russo
Study Abroad Collegiate Scholarship	
Website	

Some January Photos

Left Photo: Our January 11th Christmas Dinner at Casa Bella in Denville. From the left are Joe McGill (Treasurer), Bruce Ponchak (Chapter President), National President Dominick Nicastro and his wife Alina, Eileen Wood (2nd Chapter VP), Steve Pelonero (Past Chapter President and current Eastern Region DG)

Right Photo: At our NJ IV District Meeting at the Brookdale Tavern & Kitchen in Bloomfield. Pictured are the Chapter President that were in attendance along with National Officers. From the left: Tom from the Pequannock Chapter, Marie Rose from the Montclair Chapter, National President Dominick Nicastro (Garfield Chapter), Bruce Ponchak (our Passaic Valley Chapter), Dave from the Passaic-Clifton Chapter, Sal Ingallina from the Cedar Grove Chapter and our current NJ IV DG, Pat from the Cedar Grove Chapter, Mike from the Bloomfield Chapter, Angela from the Wayne Chapter, Steve Pelonero from the Passaic Valley Chapter and our current Region DG



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"*.

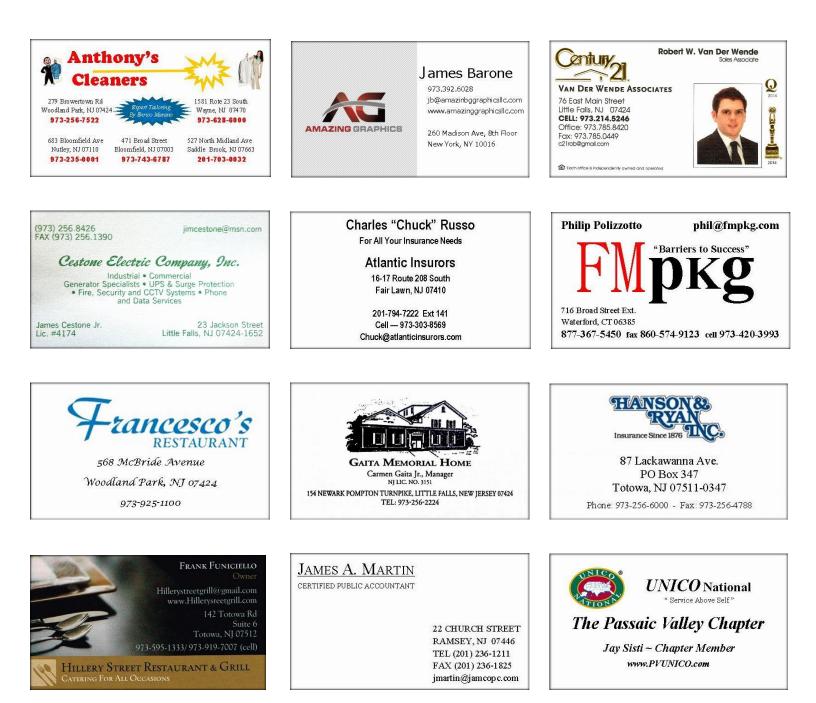
Each year, the UNICO Foundation and the UNICO National Chapters across the country donate approximately \$1 million to various charities. Scholarships continue to be the primary focus of UNICO, as roughly one-third of all monies raised goes to deserving students from all of the chapter locations throughout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

February ~ Febbraio

Thank You to our 2016-2017 Sponsors and Supporters



You too can be seen here for an entire UNICO year

Thank You Again 2016-2017 Sponsors and Supporters



Our chapter accomplishes a lot because of "You"

Our 2016-2017 Sponsors and Supporters

