January ~ 2017 Year 14 Issue 138

# Passaic Valley UNICO

## Our March 2017 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO PO Box 341 Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving Little Falls Totowa Woodland Park

#### Page Highlights:

About UNICO	4
Birthday's	2
ComUNICO Link	3
Food Pantry	2
Photo Album Links	2
Photos from February	4
President's Message	1
Sponsors 2016-2017	5,6,7
St. Joseph's Day	3
Upcoming Events	2
Who's Who	3

Website www.PVUNICO.com Website www.UNICOmembers.com

Website www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO

Website www.UNICO.org

Email PassaicValleyUNICO @gmail.com

# President's Message

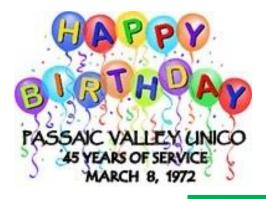
Hello UNICAN's,

Well it looks like we're in the home stretch of winter. Only a few more days and spring is here. And that begins our string of events. The month of April has a number of functions starting with Karaoke Night on April 21<sup>st</sup>, Community Service Day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Flapjack Breakfast on the 29<sup>th</sup>. I hope everyone can attend one or more of these events.

I'm writing this message on Ash Wednesday the beginning of Lent which is a time of reflection. It's a good time to reflect on how fortunate we are and how we can share our blessings with those who are not as fortunate. UNICO's creed of "Service Above Self" exemplifies that belief. Whether we make a monetary donation or volunteer our services, I hope everyone will do something out of the ordinary this Lenten Season.

Our meeting is being held at Holy Cross Church on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. We will be having Coffee and Cake/Donuts. Please feel free to bring baked goods to the meeting. I hope to see everyone there.

### Bruce Ponchak





#### March Birthdays

03-03 Philip Barone 03-07 Joseph Barone 03-07 Nicolette Barbieri 03-22 Joseph Scarpa 03-31 Kyle R. Eopechino

#### 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 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

#### **Upcoming Events – Local and National**

March 1 ... Wednesday ... Ash Wednesday

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

March 12 ... Sunday ... Daylight Savings Time ... Clocks Ahead

March 17 ... Friday ... St. Patrick'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

March 19 ... Sunday ... St. Joseph's Day

March 20 ... Monday ... 1st Day of Spring

<u>April 21, 2017</u> ... Friday ... <u>Karaoke Night Fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital and the Jimmy V Foundation</u>

<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

<u>More</u>: June Golf Outing, June Wine & Dine Raffle – Please check our website for more updates @ <u>www.PVUNICO.com</u>

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 **PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com** 

#### Now Available to Purchase ~ Our Wine & Dine Raffle

Passaic Valley Chapter, UNICO National

- WINE & DINE 
25 Plus Bottles & 5 Dinners for 2

Prize retail value: \$500.00

Donation \$5.00

Proceeds of this fund raiser will benefit local charities and scholarships

Drawing Date: June 14, 2017, 9:00pm

Winner need not be present and must be at least 21 years of age

Winner must pickup raffle prize

Holy Cross Church, 220 Browertown Rd., Woodland Park, NJ 07424

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U – Unity

N - Neighborliness

I - Integrity

C – Charity

O – Opportunity

"<u>Service Above Self</u>"



#### St. Joseph's Day

March 19th

St. Joseph is the patron saint of Sicily

Many Italians celebrate this day with St. Joseph Tables, decorated with many different foods

The fava bean is considered very lucky because it survived the drought in Sicily

Breadcrumbs are incorporated into many dishes as it represents sawdust (St. Joseph was a carpenter)

Tradition is to wear red on this day (March 19), as opposed to wearing the color green on St Patrick's Day (March 17)

#### **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	Patrick Ligouri
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 & Pancake	Breakfast Dominick Bucci
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

#### 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	Joseph Agresti PNP
Website	. Steven Pelonero / John Barbieri

# Some February Photos

<u>Left Photo</u>: At our February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting at Holy Cross Church in Woodland park NJ. Guest speakers Celina Poggiogalle, George Clark, and Mary Ann Re (center three). On the left is Passaic Valley Chapter President Bruce Ponchak. Pictured to the right is Joe Agresti, PNP and chapter Study Abroad Scholarship Chairman. Celina and George are both past recipients and graduates of Montclair State University. Mary Ann Re is the Director of the Joseph & Elda Coccia Inastitute for the Italian American Experience in America

<u>Right Photo</u>: Also at our February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting and getting ready for business of the eveing to start, are from the left: Secretary Pat Ligouri, President Bruce Ponchak, and Treasurer Joe McGill. Photo bombing in the back right of the picture is our Sgt.At Arms Dominick Bucci helping prepare for our traditional 7:00 pm dinner and 8:00 meeting





**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.

## March ~ Marzo

# Thank You to our 2016-2017 Sponsors and Supporters











Chuck@atlanticinsurors.com













22 CHURCH STREET RAMSEY, NJ 07446 TEL (201) 236-1211 FAX (201) 236-1825 jmartin@jamcopc.com



The Passaic Valley Chapter

Jay Sisti ~ Chapter Member www.PVUNICO.com

# You too can be seen here for an entire UNICO year Thank You Again 2016-2017 Sponsors and Supporters



### Keith Kazmark Woodland Park Mayor

Joe & Ellen Kliminski Friends of Passaic Valley UNICO



Joe & Ellen Kliminski Friends of Passaic Valley UNICO

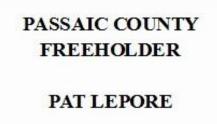
















#### Santangelo Funeral Home

635 McBride Avenue Woodland Park, NJ 074241

(973) 345-2500

# Our chapter accomplishes a lot because of "You" Our 2016-2017 Sponsors and Supporters





Come Join the Family 8 Main Street, Little Falls, NJ 07424



#### INSERRA SHOP-RITE SUPERMARKETS

SERVING BERGEN, PASSAIC & HUDSON COUNTIES

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY 20 RIDGE ROAD \* MAHWAH, NJ 07430-2328



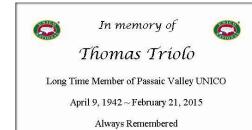


LITTLE FALLS

171 Browertown Road Little Falls, NJ 07424









#### WILSON'S AUTO BODY

1265 McBRIDE AVENUE WOODLAND PARK, NJ 07424 (973) 256-6873









There is always room for you in UNICO
Please inquire about being a sponsor for our chapter
It's never too late

For just \$100.00 you can be seen in this newsletter Every month from July 2016 through June of 2017 And also on our website at www.PVUNICO.com

Ask any member for more information Or contact us with an email / or private message on Facebook

> PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO

To learn more about UNICO
The Largest Italian American Organization in the United States
You can also visit www.UNICO.org