2018 Year 16 Issue 155

# Passaic Valley UNICO Our August 2018 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO PO Box 341 Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving Little Falls Totowa Woodland Park

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

## A Message from our Editor

Hello fellow Unican's, and friends

Website

Website

Website

Website

Email

We are back from the convention and this is the last chapter message that I will be doing. The rest will be written by our chapter President Carmen Gaita.

But speaking of conventions, it was another great meeting with family and friends and a time to see and hear from members from across the country and to especially to hear of all the good that UNICO does.

Representing our chapter were Joe Agresti (PNP), Sal Benvenuti (Executive Director), Jean Chomko (chapter delegate), Joyce o'Hara (chapter delegate), Steve Pelonero (elected at the convention as our UNICO National 1<sup>st</sup> VP), and Eileen Wood (chapter delegate)

Photos of all of us are on another page in this newsletter as well as on our chapter website.

On a final note, please don't forget to pay your dues (early if possible) ... and check out "Upcoming Events" (on page 2) to see where we can help and get together again ... And please support our sponsors !

See you in September

# Please Don't Forget

Send yours to our PO Box 341 in Little Falls, 07424



#### August Birthdays

Joseph Agresti – 8/9 Anthony Orlando – 8/9 Carmen Allora – 8/24 Joseph McGill – 8/25 Yelena Stuherck – 8/31

#### 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.PassaicValleyUNICO.org

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 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**

<u>September 12</u> ... 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ... <u>Our monthly chapter meeting</u> ... Location will follow ... <u>Save the Date</u>

<u>September 23</u> ... Sunday ... <u>The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual NJ District X - Sgt. John</u> <u>Basilone Parade</u> ... All chapters and districts are invited to be a part of this parade, only held in America, so that this Italian-American War Hero can be remembered

<u>October 10</u> ... 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ... <u>Our monthly chapter meeting</u> ... Location will follow ... <u>Save the Date</u>

<u>October 22, 23, 24, and 25</u> ... Monday through Thursday ... <u>Dine with UNICO at</u> <u>Thatcher McGhee's in Fairfield</u> ... Fundraising for our chapter ... The flier is on page 7 of this newsletter

<u>November 14</u> ... 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ... <u>Our monthly chapter meeting</u> ... Location will follow ... <u>Save the Date</u>

<u>November 17</u> ... Saturday ... <u>\$17.00 Pasta Dinner</u> ... The flier is on page 8 of this newsletter and also on our website ... <u>RSVP</u>

You can also see more events and dates from our NJ District IV Chapters by visiting the District website @ www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com

Our Chapter Dues are ½ paid to UNICO National Did you pay yours yet to our chapter ?

#### "UNICO"

#### Below are UNICO's CORE VALUES

If you know of someone who has them, Please invite them to a meeting and possibly have them join our chapter as a new member

- U Unity
- **N** Neighborliness

"Service Above Self"

- I Integrity
- C Charity
- **O** Opportunity

www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org



#### Did You Know?

Our chapter member Steve Pelonero was sworn in at the 2018 convention as our National 1<sup>st</sup> VP. His convention will be in 2020

In 2022 UNICO National will be 100 years old with the Waterbury CT chapter the founding chapter

In Italian, UNICO means Unique

Scholarships are the primary focus with UNICO in giving out many grants

Donated at the 2018 Delray Beach Convention, from chapters and districts across the country, came to approximately \$xxx,xxx

#### ComUNICO

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



### Who's Who

#### Our 2018-2019 Executive Board

| President               | Carmen Gaita Jr. |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1st Vice President      | Eileen Wood      |
| 2nd Vice President      | Pat Ligouri      |
| Treasurer               | Bruce Ponchak    |
| Recording Secretary     | Steve Pelonero   |
| Sgt. At-Arms            | Dominick Bucci   |
|                         |                  |
| Corresponding Socretary | John Marana      |

Corresponding Secretary ...... John Morano

#### Our 2018-2019 Board of Directors

| Bruce Ponchak       | Chapter President | 2016 & 2017 |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 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 |

#### Our 2018-2019 Chapter Delegates

President Carmen Gaita Jr ... 50 Members (President +2) ..... Delegate Eileen Wood ..... Delegate Joyce O'Hara ..... Alternate Delegate Jean Chomko

#### ..... Fundraising Committee Heads

| Bus Rides                       | Elaine Barone, Mary Benvenuti, Joyce O'Hara |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Dine with UNICO                 | Joe Benvenuti, Jean Chomko, Mark BiFalco    |
| Golf Outing                     | Joe Barone                                  |
| Holiday Donations               | Robert Appaluccio                           |
| Modell's                        | Roni Corrado                                |
| Overseas Armed Service Care     | Packages Pat Corrado                        |
| Refrigerator with Wine Raffle - | A 2020 Vision for UNICO Steve Pelonero      |

#### Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

| Community Service Day (April)       | Chuck Russo                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Food Pantry                         | Roni Corrado                    |
| Good and Welfare                    | Sal Nocella                     |
| 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 |

Did you know that we are also on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter ? www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO - www.Instagram.com/passaicValleyUNICO - www.Twitter.com/PassaicValleyUNICO

> It's Never Too Late We will advertise your name for an entire UNICO year (See pages 7, 8 and 9)



**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.

## **Committee Comments**

Would you like to be on a committee

Do you have a Fundraising idea

Please step up and Serve our Chapter, our community and UNICO National

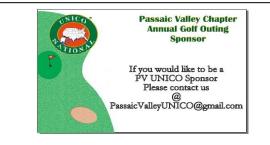
Keep us strong

Let more people know what we do



Pasta Dinner Just \$17.00 The flier is in this newsletter And on our website





Do you know of some who would like to sponsor our UNICO Chapter ?

For just \$100.00 for the year, it gets them in this newsletter and on our chapter website for our entire UNICO year.

Please contact us via our chapter email: <u>PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com</u> Or use our website to fill out the online form <u>www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org</u>

> Dine with UNICO At Thatcher McGhee's The flier is in this newsletter And on our website

## July Photos The 96<sup>th</sup> Annual UNICO National Convention



#### Top Photo:

The convention always starts with the Ice Breaker. This years' theme was the 50's Sock Hop. Pictured are our Passaic Valley UNICO chapter members

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From the left are: Steve Pelonero (UNICO's 1<sup>st</sup> National VP), Jean Chomko, Yoyce O'Hara, Sal Benvenuti (National Executive Director), and Joe Agresti PNP



Bottom Photo:

Saturday night is the UNICO Gala where we truly welcome our newly installed National President. Pictured here is our NJ District IV members.

Seated from the left: Maryann Ingallina (Cedar Grove), Joyce O'Hara, National President and 1<sup>st</sup> Lady Lee and Debbie Norelli (Greater Philadelphia), Pat Pelonero, Arlene Agresti. Standing from the left: Joe Agresti PNP, Sal Ingallina (Cedar Grove), Sal and Debbie Benvenuti, Jean Chomko, Steve Pelonero, Eileen Wood, Betty Ann, and Paul Alongi (Bloomfield)

## August ~ agosto

# Thank You to our 2018-2019 Sponsors and Supporters



# You too can be seen here for an entire UNICO year

# Just contact us for more information ~ It's never too late



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## **Our chapter accomplishes a lot because of "You"**

Thank you again everyone ~ "Grazie"

