



2022

UNICO National

Italian & Italian American Heritage & Photo Calendar

www.UNICO.org

Our 11th Edition

UNICO National Chapter States

California

Connecticut

Delaware

Florida

Illinois

Massachusetts

Minnesota

Missouri

New Jersey

New York

Pennsylvania

South Carolina


Tennessee

Wisconsin



January | gennaio 2022

Photo Credit:
Matera in the region of Basilicata
Anthony Bengivenga, Greater Westfield Chapter NJ
(The cover and back page photo credits are on the back cover)

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>Matera is a city on a rocky outcrop in the region of Basilicata, in southern Italy. It includes the Sassi area, a complex of cave dwellings carved into the mountainside. Evacuated in 1952 due to poor living conditions, the Sassi now houses museums like the Casa Grotta di Vico Solitario, with period furniture and artisan tools. Nearby rock churches include St. Lucia alle Malve, with 13th-century frescoes</p>					<p>1 New Years Day</p> <p>Dr. Ann Walko PNP 2015 GreaterWestfield NJ Chapter</p>
2	3	4	5	6 The Epiphany	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 John Alati PNP 2002 (d. 2021) Verona NJ Chapter
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	25	27	28	29
30	31					

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Sparta UNICO, NJ

St. Louis UNICO, MO




Steven Pelonero, NJ

Frank Travisano, CT



February | febbraio 2022

Photo Credit:
Greek Temple in Agrigento, Sicily
Anthony Pelonero, National Member, VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Dr. Frank DeFrank PNP 2019/2020 Roseto PA Chapter	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	<p>Valle dei Templi ~ Valley of the Temples: Greek Architecture in Agrigento, Sicily. The valley includes remains of seven temples. The above photo is of the <i>Tempio della Concordia</i> - The Temple of Concordia. It is the largest and best preserved temple in Sicily. It was built in 440-430 BC. <i>Concordia</i> is the Roman Goddess of harmony</p>				

UNICO National Charities

*Armed Services
Columbus Day
Heritage Calendar*

*You can now donate using our pledge
form.
Refer to the inside last page*

UNICO Foundation Charities

*21st Century Capital Fund
Anti Bias
Cancer Research & Prevention
Cooley's Anemia
Italian Studies
Mental Health
Scholarships
Torraco Food Bank / Shelter*

March | marzo 2022

Photo Credit:
Clear Water in Capri near the Blue Gratto
Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Board of Directors Meeting Myrtle Beach, SC	11 Board of Directors Meeting Myrtle Beach, SC	12 Board of Directors Meeting Myrtle Beach, SC
13 Daylight Savings Time (Clocks forward) Ends on November 6	14	15 44 BC: Ides of March Julius Caesar is assassinated	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 St. Joseph's Day
20 Spring Begins Ends on June 21	21 Chris DiMattio PNP 2010 Scranton PA Chapter	22	23	24	25	26 Nicholas Quercetti PNP 1986 Philadelphia PA Chapter
27	28	29	30	31		

UNICO National Executive Committee

President Steven Pelonero
Exec. VP Dr. Peter Pettinato
First VP Ralph Contini
Second VP Anthony Bengivenga
Secretary Lou Mattaliano
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Eastern Regional Chair Steven Calantone
Mid West Regional Chair Nina Held
Western Chair Vacant



April | aprile 2022

Photo Credit:
Night time walk in the streets of Syracuse, Sicily
Anthony Pelonero, National Member, VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>Syracuse is a historic city on the island of Sicily, the capital of the Italian province of Syracuse. The city is notable for its rich Greek and Roman history, culture, amphitheatres and architecture. This 2,700-year-old city played a key role in ancient times when it was one of the major powers of the Mediterranean world. Syracuse is located in the southeast corner of the island of Sicily, next to the Gulf of Syracuse, beside the Ionian Sea.</p>				1	2
3 Steven Pelonero NP 2021 Passaic Valley NJ Chapter	4	5	6 2009 An earthquake strikes L'Aquila	7	8	9
10	11	12 Salvatore Mangano PNP 1997 Saddle Brook NJ Chapter	13 Thomas Jefferson Birthday	14 Glenn Pettinato PNP 2011 Carbondale PA Chapter	15 Good Friday 1452 Leonardo daVinci is born	16
17 Easter Sunday Frank Cannata PNP 1994 Glastonbury CT Chapter	18	19	20 Michael Spano PNP 2006 Memphis TN Chapter	21 753 BC According to legend, Rome was founded this day	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NJ District VII

*Garfield
Hackensack
Kearny
Lodi*

*Nutley
Rutherford
Saddle Brook*



May | maggio 2022

Photo Credit:
A busy street in Seradifalco, Caltanissetta, Sicily
Anthony Pelonero, National Member, Richmond VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10 Kathi Strozza PNP 2008 San Diego CA Chapter	11	12	13 Ascension of Jesus	14
15 Armed Forces Day	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31				

NY District II


*Brookhaven
Brooklyn/Staten Island
Harrison*

*Islip/Smithtown
North Shore, L.I.
Queensboro*



June | giugno 2022

Photo Credit:
 Ponte Vecchio (Old Bridge) Florence
 Sharon Kessinger, UNICO National Member, VA


Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
			1	2	3	4
5 Pentecost	6 1944 D-Day	7	8	9 Lee Norelli PNP 2018 Greater Philadelphia Chapter	10 Frank Tidona PNP 2001 Rutherford NJ Chapter	11
12	13	14 1775 Army's Birthday Flag Day Anthony Braico PNP 2005 Avon CT Chapter	15	16	17 Richard D'Arminio PNP 2014 Ramsey NJ Chapter	18
19 Father's Day	20	21 Summer Begins	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		


Welcome to the month of our 99th annual UNICO National Convention
InterContinental, New Orleans, LA
July 27, 28, 29, 30



July | luglio 2022

Photo Credit:
Morano Calabro in Cosenza
Joe Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
					1 The first day of the UNICO calendar year	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6 Tom Vaughan PNP 2017 Wethersfield CT Chapter	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Dominick Nicastro PNP 2016 Garfield NJ Chapter	25 Parents Day	26	27 99th UNICO Convention New Orleans, LA	28 99th UNICO Convention New Orleans, LA	29 99th UNICO Convention New Orleans, LA	30 99th UNICO Convention New Orleans, LA
31						



***UNICO
National
Our Past
National Presidents***

*Paul Alongi (1975)
Nick Quercetti (1986)
Frank Castrignano (1988)
Dr. Alfred Maglio (1989)
Frank Cannata (1994)
Sal Mangano (1997)*

*William Rocco (2000)
Frank Tidona (2001)
Frank Caperino (2003)
Anthony Braico (2005)
Michael Spano (2006)
Joseph Agresti (2007)*

*Kathi Strozza (2008)
Chris DiMattio (2010)
Glenn Pettinato (2011)
Michael Veselka (2013)
Richard D'Arminio (2014)
Ann Walko (2015)
Dominick Nicastro (2016)
Thomas Vaughan (2017)
Lee Norelli (2018)
Dr. Frank DeFrank (2019 & 2020)*

August | agosto 2022

Photo Credit:
Trulli houses in Alberobello, Puglia
Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	1	2	3 Paul Alongi PNP 1975 Bloomfield NJ Chapter	4	5	6
7	8	9 Joseph Agresti PNP 2007 Passaic Valley NJ Chapter	10	11	12	13
14	15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	16	17	18	19	20
21 Senior Citizen Day	22	23	24 AD 79 Mount Vesuvius erupted	25	26	27
28	29	30 30 BC Cleopatra committed suicide	31			

See you Labor Day Weekend
From the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National

&

LAFESTA
ITALIANA

**Downtown
Scranton**



September | settembre 2022

Photo Credit:
Olive Trees in San Gimignano, Tuscany
Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Grandparents Day	13	14	15	16	17
18 Air Force Birthday	19	20	21	22	23 Autumn Begins	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	




*Come celebrate with us on
October 10th*

*Our 100th year of
“Service Above Self”*

October | ottobre 2022

Photo Credit:
Gondola in Venice
Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>The gondola is a traditional flat-bottomed rowing boat. Some types of gondola boats are also used in special regatas (rowing races) held amongst gondoliers. There are approximately 400 licensed gondoliers and in August of 2010, Giorgia Boscolo became Venice's first fully licensed female gondolier. There are about a half dozen cities in the United States where Gondolas are operated as tourist attractions, including New Orleans, the Charles River in Boston, New York's Central Park, the Providence River in Rhode Island, as well as several in California.</p>					1
2 1870 Rome replaces Florence as the capital of Italy	3	4 Feast of St. Francis	5	6	7	8
9	10 Columbus Day 1922 UNICO is founded by Dr. Vastola in Waterbury, CT	11	12	13 Navy's Birthday	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30 1451 (d.1506) Christopher Columbus is born in Genoa, Italy	24 31 Brian Piccolo (d.1970) Halloween	25	26	27	28	29

A Tribute to all of our Vastola Awardees



- *For their service to UNICO
Above and Beyond Self*
- *Exceptional service
to UNICO on the
National level*
- *Showed initiative,
originality and
dedication to UNICO*

1957 Theodore Mazza	1970 Stephen Mastropletro	1983 *	1996 Salvatore B. Ceraso	2009 Paul Alongi
1958 Hugo Senerchia	1971 Joseph J Salerno	1984 Dr. Louis Badeen	1997 Cav. Frank Milo	2010 Frank Tidona
1959 Dr. Joseph Pantaleone	1972 Mario DiGiovanno	1985 Michael Corradino	1998 *	2011 John DiNapoli
1960 Emil Santacrose	1973 Frank Castellano, Esq.	1986 Tony Della Monica	1999 Alphonse Lordo	2012 Gerry Heytink
1961 Alphonse Miele	1974 *	1987 Dominick Frinzi, Esq.	2000 James D'Angelo	2013 Joseph Agresti
1962 John Paolercio	1975 Fred J. DiRossi	1988 Renato Biribin, Esq.	2001 Antonino Lombardo	2014 Frank Paolercio, Sr.
1963 Louis Sabella	1976 *	1989 Alfred J. Dante Jr.	2002 Dr. Emanuele Alfano	2015 Ralph A. Contini
1964 Charles Flumefreddo	1977 General Vincent Ghioda	1990 *	2003 *	2016 *
1965 J. Anthony Christopher	1978 Mario Albi	1991 Edward Alleva	2004 Michael J. D'Arminio	2017 *
1966 James Napolitano	1979 *	1992 Harold Ferrese	2005 Charles Greenwald	2018 Frank Blasi
1967 Dr. James Diner	1980 Nicholas Lombardo	1993 Anthony Fornelli, Esq.	2006 Leno Sodini	2019 *
1968 Anthony Salmon	1981 Sam M. Tranchida	1994 *	2007 John A. Botti	2020 *
1969 Charles Corso	1982 Joseph Coccia, Jr.	1995 Michael J Sutera	2008 Frank DeMaio	2021*

* No Awardee

November | novembre 2022

Photo Credit:
Mangia: Melon & Prosciutto
Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
		1 All Saints Day Michael Veselka PNP 2013 Chicago IL Chapter	2 All Souls Day	3	4 1916 (d.1945) Sgt. John Basilone, Marine Born in Buffalo, NY	5
6 Daylight Saving Time Ends Clocks go back one hour	7 Dr. Alfred Maglio PNP 1989 Milwaukee WI Chapter	8	9	10 1775 Marine Corp Birthday	11 Veterans Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 William Rocco PNP 2000 W. Springfield MA Chapter	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27	28	29	30	Prosciutto is an Italian dry-cured ham that is usually thinly sliced and served uncooked; this style is called prosciutto crudo in Italian and is distinguished from cooked ham which is called prosciutto cotto		

*UNICO National
Wishes everyone
A safe
And a Merry Christmas*



December | dicembre 2022

Photo Credit:
The Vatican in Rome
Joseph Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
				1	2	3
4	5 Frank Caperino PNP 2003 San Diego CA Chapter	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception This day is a National Holiday in Italy	9	10
11	12	13 1636 National Guard Birthday	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Winter Begins	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve

What is UNICO?

UNICO National is America's largest Italian American service and charitable organization with many local chapters across the country. UNICO was founded on October 10, 1922 in Waterbury, Connecticut, by Dr. Vastola. Dr. Vastola was a physician and was denied membership in a service organization solely because of his Italian Heritage. To counteract this bias, he assembled a group of 15 professional men of Italian heritage to create, what has become a very special and proud organization to engage in charitable works, support higher education, and perform patriotic deeds to counteract bias against Italians and Italian Americans.



The name UNICO was selected as best representing the nature and character of this fledging organization. UNICO is the Italian word for unique - one of a kind. The founders believed that UNICO would be the only one of its kind because it placed service to the community before and above fraternity.

In order to do this, members would have to make sacrifices, not for personal gain, but for service to others. In later years UNICO also became an acronym that stood for Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity and Opportunity.

A Promise that Continues to be Delivered

Since the inception of UNICO National, thousands of people and causes have been the recipients of UNICO's charity and service. Significant funds have been raised for national and international disasters. Scholarships continue as the primary focus with over one-third of funds raised going to deserving students from chapter locations across the USA.



Steven Pelonero
UNICO National President
2021-2022
Passaic Valley UNICO
NJ District IV

UNICO has funded for many years, major research in Cooley's Anemia and Mental Health. Through its association with the Jimmy V Foundation, UNICO has funded many direct annual cancer research grants. UNICO has taken a head position in combating negative stereotyping of Italian Americans through the efforts of its Anti-Bias Committee.

All of these, plus more efforts have exceeded the objectives of UNICO founders. Through the local UNICO chapters across the country, this organization is living up to its motto of "Service Above Self" every day, along with enjoying the camaraderie and friendship of our extended UNICO family across the country.

Photo Credits:

Cover:	Steven Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Ancient Roman Ruins
January:	Anthony Bengivenga, Greater Westfield Chapter NJ: Matera in the region of Basilicata
February:	Anthony Pelonero, National Member, VA: Greek Temple in Agrigento, Sicily
March:	Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter, NJ: Clear Water in Capri near the Blue Gratto
April:	Anthony Pelonero, National Member, VA: Streets at night in Syracuse, Sicily
May:	Anthony Pelonero, National Member, VA: A busy street in Seradifalco, Caltanasetta, Sicily
June:	Sharon Kessinger, National Member, VA: Ponte Vecchio (Old Bridge) Florence
July:	Joseph Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Morano Calabro in Cosenza
August:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: Trulli houses in Alberobello, Puglia
September:	Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter, NJ: Olive Trees in San Gimignano, Tuscany
October:	Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Gondola in Venice
November:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: Mangia: Melon & Prosciutto
December:	Joseph Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: The Vatican in Rome
Back Cover:	Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter, NJ: Ancient ruins in Pompei overlooking Mt. Vesuvius

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February	Booster Sponsors
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July	Convention Month
August	Past National Presidents of UNICO
September	LaFesta Italiana Scranton & Scranton PA UNICO
October	Come Celebrate 100 years of "Service Above Self"
November	Tribute to our Vastola Awardees
December	Merry Christmas from UNICO National



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Steven Pelonero	NJ
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Send Checks to: 271 US Hwy 46 West, Suite F-103, Fairfield, NJ 07004

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Thank you ~ Grazie



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We are the largest Italian-American
Service Organization in the USA

"Service Above Self"
www.UNICO.org





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Cover and Back Photo Credits:

Front Cover: Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley NJ Chapter: Ancient Roman Ruins
Back Cover: Anthony Bogash, Clark NJ Chapter NJ: Ancient ruins in Pompei overlooking Mt. Vesuvius

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