

IMAS

ISLANDS MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SOCIETY

Mission Statement

IMAS, a not-for-profit corporation is a humanitarian foundation created in the USA to support the health services for the people of the islands of Cres, Losinj, Ilovik, Susak, Male & Vele Srakane, & Unije in Croatia.

Appeal 2021

MAIL your DONATION to:

IMAS

P. O. Box 314

Manhasset, N. Y. 11030

**A 501 (c) 3,
registered in NYS**

Your donation is tax deductible

From 2002-2019 IMAS fundraisers have donated equipment valued over
\$ 530,000.00

Dialysis Bed for our Islands



IMAS will donate a dialysis bed that includes a scale to weight patients for the existing Dialysis Unit. Valued at \$ 8,250.00

Our fundraisers have been interrupted due to the pandemic. Stay safe and please donate directly to our annual Appeal today.

A **Dentist Chair** was requested for use by Dr. Marko Pilas, for the "Dom Zdravlja" in Mali Losinj. It will provide services for the 1800 patients enrolled from the islands. "Ova stomatološka stolica je posebno vrijedna jer postojeća više nije -

Executive Board

2020-2021

President

Dusanka Marusic

Executive

Vice President

Ines Kucich

Vice President

Justin Calabrese

Secretary

Fedora Rucconich

Treasurer

Loredana Beg

Assistant Secretary

Maria Cividini

Assistant Treasurer

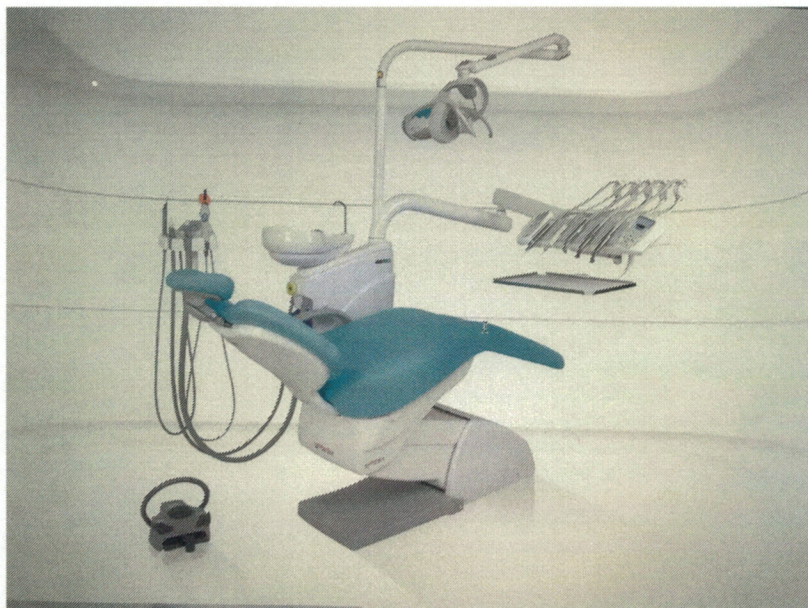
Anton Benvin

rentabilna i teško ju je popravljati. I budući da je ta ordinacija pri Domu zdravlja smatramo vašu donaciju izuzetno vrijednom na korist otočnih pacijenata.

Veliko Vam hvala!”said Dr. Lakner

IMAS Donation is Valued at \$ 16,600.00

by Fedora Rucconich



IMAS Lost 2 of its biggest supporters this year:

RIP **Anita Pagan**

very first fundraiser for IMAS sold raffles for a television. She earned our very first thousand dollars as a founding member in 2002. Her family and friends made donation to IMAS in her name.

We will forever remember her warmly in our hearts.



Board at Large:

Zdenko Beg*

Liliana Muskardin*

Rose Maracic*

Miroslav Eror*

Jasna Dobrila

Ivanka Eror

Marko Pinezich

Klaudio Simicich

Marina Pilic

Doris Karcic

Astrid Kuljanic

Franko Neretich

Liaison:

Peter Budinic

*former president
+ R.I.P.

*+ Mario Dumicic
+ Nikola Morin
+ Anita Pagan
+ Antonio Coglievina

RIP Antonio Coglievina,

a selfless, caring and giving person. It goes back his roots where he was born in Cres, (Cherso). There he learned and cherished the traditions of his culture and carried them throughout life by volunteering in various organizations.

Antonio a dedicated member of IMAS was a founding member of since 2002, until his unexpected passing on February 17, 2020 at the age of 85.

Antonio was also a long standing and dedicated member of Society Chersina (1959 to 2020). Serving as President from 1991 to 2016, and is the longest standing individual to hold the office as President of the Society.

He was a friend to all, and had an artistic creative talent. His creations were one of a kind for all members and friends to enjoy. The podium with a ships wheel, see photo, was just one of his many creations. One of the all time favorites is Santa's Sleigh for the Saint Nicholas celebration. As so many members and friends have photos and fond memories of the children going up to the sleigh to see Santa.

His creativity is legendary and will be enjoyed by many for years to come. By Anton Benvin



By Bojan Purić / June 2.2020. / Otoci.net

“Novcem iseljenika nabavljeno još opreme za Dom zdravlja”

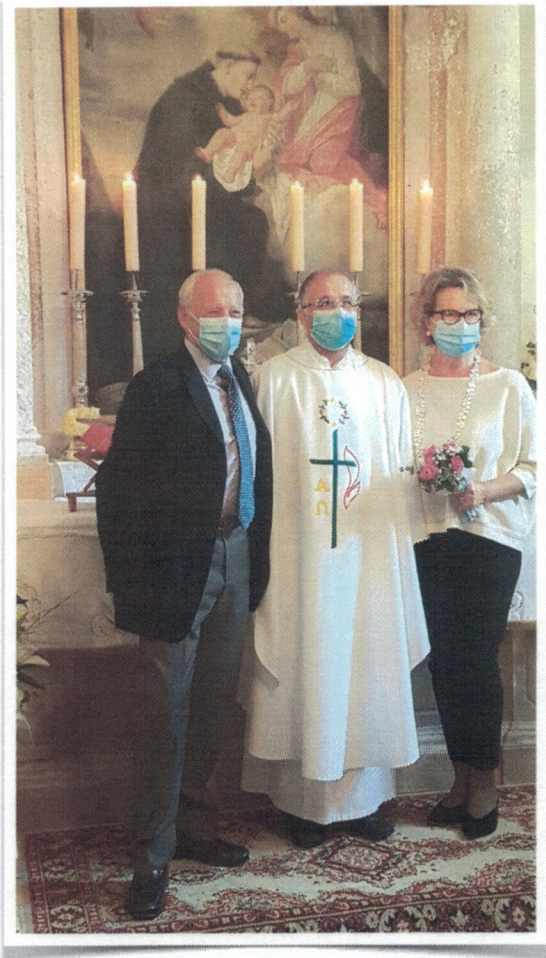
“I ove godine, pune izazova u zdravstvu, od otočnih iseljenika u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama stigla je pomoć "starome kraju". Udruga IMAS (Islands Medical Assistance Society) sa sjedištem u saveznoj državi New York, na ovogodišnjoj je donatorskoj večeri prikupila približno 20 tisuća američkih dolara, a od tog je novca nabavljen novi mikroskop za laboratorij te uređaj za pranje posuda za stacionar ispostave Doma zdravlja PGŽ u Malom Lošinj. Mikroskop marke "Olympus" vrijedan oko 15 tisuća dolara pridonijet će poboljšanju radu laboratorija, sa svjetlošću prilagođenoj tako da ne ometa osobu koja na njemu radi. Uređaj za pranje posuda, nazivan i "blatex", zamijenit će dosadašnje ručno pranje posuda za vršenje nužde, što će medicinskim sestrama olakšati rad. Oprema je nabavljena uz ranije konzultacije s Domom zdravlja, kako bi se osiguralo da otočna zdravstvena ustanova u okvirima novčanog iznosa dobije ono što joj je u ovom trenutku najpotrebnije.

Donatorska večera u Americi održana je prije uvođenja mjera reduciranja javnih okupljanja, a ovime se nastavlja niz donacija započet 2002. godine - otada je za otočno zdravstvo nabavljeno opreme u ukupnom iznosu od oko 500 tisuća dolara, a potom je ona distribuirana u razna mjesta cresko-lošinjskog arhipelaga.”



“To all of you at IMAS group, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your gift of the **Defibrillators** to my adopted island of **Susak**. Seeing it installed this summer by the post office and below the nurses office I was grateful for your gift and the peace of mind that it will bring the islanders and visitors.” From Maria Franko Matesic

Our Best Wishes to Dino & Karen Mirkovic who have resigned.

IMAS Donors and Supporters 2019

HAPPY 50TH Wedding Anniversary!
To one of our founders,
Liliana Muskardin and Barba Dario
with Don Roberto,
celebrated in Mali Losinj.

Mark & Liljana Vlakancic, Maria Dantoni, Marica Sabalja, Zeljko & Roseanne Karcic, Ferucio & Ana Toic, Fedora Rucconich, Nives Mattiasich, Antonio & Dorothy Burburan, Robert & Rosemary Lekich, Anthony Depalma,
Iconic Mechanical Services.

We collected \$18,565.00 in direct contributions.

Please include IMAS when planning your annual charitable gifts for 2021. It will be some time before we can safely get together but look for the next planned outdoor event on the islands next summer.

Thank You for supporting and or attending ALL of our fundraising events in 2019. IMAS Board

We appreciate the kindness from Mr Kreso & Mrs Nerina Bezmalinovich from Ilovik/NY. In lieu of gifts for their 50th Wedding Anniversary the couple asked their family and friends to donate too IMAS, they collected \$ 875.00



Ilovik postcard dated 1899 submitted by Franko Neretic

Dr. Muzic wrote “ Patients undergoing hemodialysis come to the dialysis center three times a week to get their therapy. The length of the hemodialysis procedure depends on the needs of the patient and for each patient is prescribed a certain time that must be spent on therapy.

The hemodialysis procedure lasts an average of 4 to 5 hours, and including the preparation and completion of therapy, the patient stays in the dialysis center for at least 5 to 6 hours.

During therapy, patients lie on therapy chairs or on beds.

Weight control is required in all patients who come to therapy at the dialysis center.

Patients are always weighed before treatment to see how much fluid needs to be removed by hemodialysis and then after treatment to confirm the effect of therapy.

Mobile patients are weighed on a standing scale, however, patients who are not mobile and unable to stand on the scales, body weight must be measured on a bed equipped with a scale.

Immobile and poorly mobile patients are brought in by ambulance and transferred to lying trolley and wheeled to the dialysis center then switched to beds equipped with scales.

So far, we have had two mobile scales placed on the sick bed, one of these scales we have thanks to a donation from IMAS 10 years ago.

Due to the greater number of immobile patients, a month ago the Health Center bought a new bed with an integrated scale and we have the need for another bed with scales.

When deciding to acquire a new lying scale, we were guided primarily by functionality, because a bed with an integrated scale can be kept moving, unlike a movable scale that is placed under the wheels of the bed and the bed is then fixed in place.

A mobile bed with an integrated scale allows you to transport the patient, for example, to an x-ray

recording, instead of first transferring it to a supine stroller and then again from a lying trolley to a table in the x-ray recording room.

Likewise, under the moveable bed it is easier to maintain cleanliness since it is possible to move it for daily cleaning.

Since the bed is completely electric, the patient can adjust the position himself and thus more easily spend at least five hours long stay in the dialysis center.

Regards,

Kristijan Mužić, MD

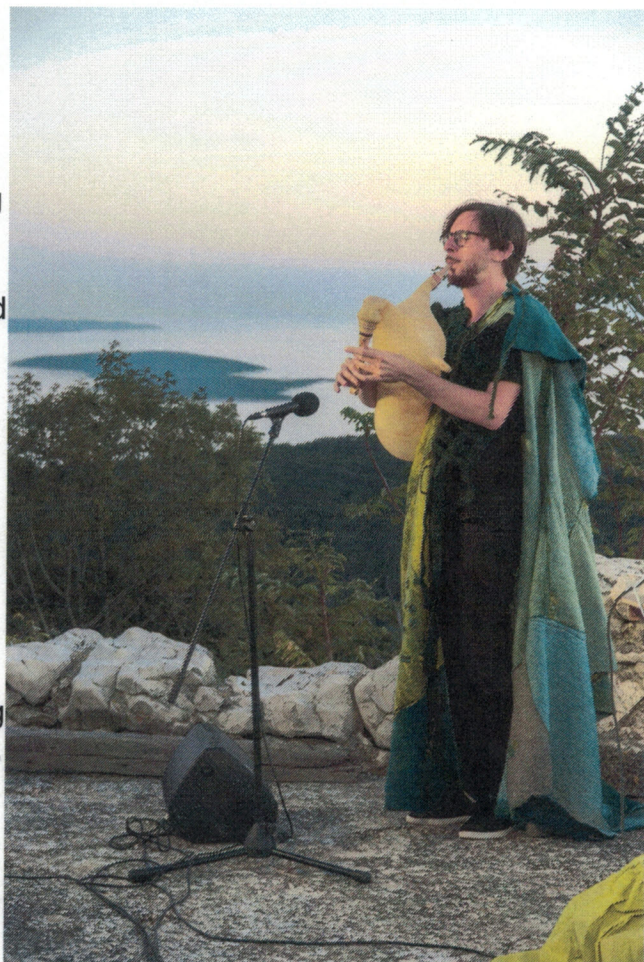
Internal Medicine-Cardiology Specialist”

The 12th **Crescendo Music Festival** was held on the island of Cres from August 20th-21st. In keeping with health regulations, the festival featured outdoor performances at the open-air theater in the town of Cres and a special pop-up stage in the scenic village of Vidovići. Performing in Cres was a duo led by local guitarist Filip Flego featuring Dino Ivelja on bass, and the Zagreb-based sextet B's FunStallation comprised of Mario Bocic (saxophone), Zvonimir Bajevic (trumpet), Davor Dolezal (guitar), Luka Zuzic (keyboard), Goran Rukavina (bass), and Borko Rupena (drums). An exhibition of the photography of Francesco Moretti and the designs of Vesna Jakić was also displayed in the theater.

The second night in Vidovići featured festival artistic director Astrid Kuljanić and New York-based bassist Mat Muntz in duo, with the evening opened by a solo set by Muntz on primorski meh, a traditional bagpipe. The ambience of the performance - staged in a guvno (a traditional structure for grinding wheat) atop a cliff overlooking the sea at sunset - was breathtaking and truly unique.

Submitted by Astrid Kuljanic

“Dear IMAS supporters,



In Memory of a beloved mother, the family of **Lili Rucconich rod. Sigovich** requested donations be made to IMAS. To date, \$2200.00 was donated by family and friends.

Thank You Fedora and Justin and family, our sincere condolences for your loss.

"Thank you all for many years of continuous support in our mission.

In 2019 we donated to Dom Zdravlja Mali Losinj two medical items: an "Olympus" Bio-Chemical Microscope at a cost of \$8,200.00 and a "Blatex" Equipment disinfecting unit at a cost of \$5,500.00.

IMAS also supplied the island of Susak with two (2) "SaverOne" Defibrillators valued at \$3,400.00.

Due to the pandemic, we were regrettably unable to gather in person for our annual dinner dance, and golf outing. Nevertheless, through your generous donations throughout 2020 and unwavering commitment to our cause, we are now delivering a specialized dialysis bed for patients with kidney disfunction, as well as state of the art fully equipped dental chair by "Moderna" to "Dom Zdravlja" in Mali Losinj.

I applaud and thank each of your individual contributions that collectively realized this fantastic achievement.

This year I stepped down as president of IMAS, and I am certain that our board will continue to fulfill our mission: elevating the standards of medical care for all villages on the two main islands Cres and Losinj as well as villages on surrounding islands.

It has been an honor and privilege to be President of the IMAS organization for six years. Not only was I able to participate in a cause I am passionate about, but I was also afforded the opportunity to forge many dear and life-long lasting friendships both here in the U.S. and in Croatia that would have otherwise not been possible.

I wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy Holiday and a joyful 2021st New Year and I thank you all for the many fun memories!

Sincerely,

Zdenko Beg"

A

fter Six (6) years of service Zdenko Beg has stepped down as president but WE won't let him go. He will remain active and a valuable member of the Board.

On Behalf of the Board , THANK YOU Zdenko !

See www.imasus.org for updates

I am grateful to all who contributed to this Newsletter, especially Zdenko, Fedora, Anton, Loredana, Liliana, Franko and Astrid. Thank You, Dusanka