

# I.M.A.S.

## UPDATE

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### Our Mission Statement:

IMAS, a not-for-profit organization, is a humanitarian foundation created in the USA to support the health services for the people of the islands of

CRES-LOŠINJ  
ILOVIK-SUSAK-LINIJE  
MALE I VELE SRAKANE

We Support Dialysis Patients

**WELCOME TO  
OUR  
2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL  
DINNER DANCE**



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### A Message from our President

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing these few words to THANK each and every one of you for your help and support for making the IMAS 2002-2003 goal a success.

In 2002-2003, IMAS was able to raise enough funds to buy the state-of-the-art Bucky Diagnostic X-Ray System, manufactured by Phillips. This machine was installed in the Hospital in Mali Lošinj, where the people of the islands of Cres-Lošinj, Ilovik, Susak, Unije, Male i Vele Srakane can use it.

The funds that were raised also allowed the refurbishing of the rooms where the machine is located.

All of this came to be because of people like you, who caringly opened your hearts and gave generously to a worthy cause.

I also want to thank the dignitaries and medical staff in Mali Lošinj for their help, graciousness and hospitality.

Last but not least, I have to thank the IMAS Board Members for their hard work in putting all the different events together to raise funds for what we all strongly believe in. THANK YOU!

Looking forward to this year, we plan to purchase EKG Machines, defibrillators and

other much needed equipment that will be distributed where needed in the different towns throughout the Islands.

This year IMAS will again host a number of events to help raise money for these purchases. Look for flyers in your mail and by word of mouth from your friends. Come and join us at these events. We are sure you will have a good time and at the same time do a good deed.

Thank You again for your support and generosity,

Mario Dumicic  
IMAS President



### First Annual Dinner Dance Gala

by Dusanka Marusic

The first IMAS Dinner Dance Gala, under the direction of Mario Dumicic and Maris Cividini, was held in February 2003 at La Fortune Restaurant in Fairview, New Jersey. A huge crowd of 430 people attended. Islanders and friends' wholehearted turnout set the tone for the evening festivities. The revenue collected in this one event more than exceeded our expectations, at a total of \$ 24,000. Bighearted raffles were donated from people who originated from these islands and their friends. Every donation IMAS received made a difference to help begin our foundational efforts.

## We Reached Our Goal!!



Phillips X-Ray System

IMAS reached its goal for 2002-2003 to help provide the Islands with a much-needed X-Ray Machine. The total cost of the machine and refurbishing of the rooms where it is located was \$ 84,681.

On July 25, 2003, a new state-of-the-art Phillips X-Ray Machine was donated to the town of Mali Lošinj and installed in the Hospital Dr. Dinko Kozulic. Mali Lošinj Mayor Dragan Balija officiated the inauguration ceremonies. IMAS President Mario Dumicic with other Board members, Maris Cividini, Dusanka Marusic, Peter Budinich, Ines Kucich, Anita Pagan, Jasna Dobrila and Klaudio Simicic were present. Enjoying the day were Zagreb Health Department Magistar Mrs. Balija, Pod-zupan Mr. Zoran Dragicevic, Hospital Director Dr. Vjekoslav Devcic, Cres Mayor Mr. Gaetano Negovetic, Član Poglavarstva Mr. Sergio Spanjol, Phillips representative Mr. Hervoje Matovinovic, local dignitaries, special friends of IMAS Mr. & Mrs. Ugo and Rita Saganic, Mr. & Mrs. Franko Dumicic, Mrs. Irene Simicic, Mr. Ilario Kucich, Mr. & Mrs. Franko and Gianina Kastelan, special guests and hospital staff.

Radio Lošinj and national Radio Zagreb covered the event.



Cutting of the ribbon by Dr. Vjekoslav Devcic, IMAS President Mario Dumicic, and Mayor Dragan Balija

All enthusiastically assisted in the cutting of the ribbon and the blessing given by Father Anton Bozanic. At the ceremony, members of "Udruga Penzionera" from Mali Lošinj presented Mr. Dumicic with a bouquet of roses in appreciation for IMAS efforts. Mayor Balija presented IMAS with a Thank You Certificate from the town of Mali Lošinj for its donation of the x-ray machine, the certificate being first of its kind to be given out by local officials.



IMAS President Dumicic receives Certificate from Mayor Balija

**We, IMAS Board members are very proud and honored to have received such recognition.**

During the day, Dr. Devcic took the IMAS Board on a tour of the hospital, showing them the different departments, offices, labs, patients rooms, etc. The hospital and staff were welcoming and prepared for our visit.

The wonderful day ended with a luncheon hosted by Mayor Balijs in Čikat for IMAS Board members present, local dignitaries and special guests.



Luncheon in Čikat

### IMAS Supporters

#### Hunters Dinner



On a cold, late afternoon in March 2003, a Hunters Dinner was held at the Rockaway Hunting Club in Lawrence, Long Island. It was a beautiful and delicious event with game donated by our "hunters" Anton Benven and friends, Sime Marusic, Marko Bunicci and Luigi Benven. Mario Dumcic and Dario Muskardin played the accordion and provided the music. Everyone sang old "domace" songs and had a ball. Credit goes to Anton Benven and his cousin Nick Benven from Cres for setting up the event and helping to raise \$ 1,500.

#### May Donation

Ed and Jean Brumgnach supported IMAS efforts in May 2003 with an event at the Istria Sports Club in Astoria. Donations raised were \$ 9,500. A full house shared a fun-filled afternoon with good food and wine. Thank you Jean and Ed.

### SPECIAL Thank You to members of Anchor Benevolent Society!



On October 26, 2003, members of the Anchor Benevolent Society, with the help of President Ines Kucich from Martinscica and Long Island, hosted a special fundraising Dinner Dance for the sole purpose of raising funds to assist IMAS goals. 165 people attended the event and everyone shared each others' company. Mario and Joe provided the entertainment. The members of the Anchor Society donated raffle gifts. Additional donations were received through the mail for this occasion. The total net revenue raised that evening was \$ 10,168.

A sincere appreciation to all who participated and supported this worthy event and made it so special and successful, in particular to the following for their contributions:

#### Gift Certificates from:

- Anderson Travel Agency – Romeo and Rosemary Saganic
- Ponticello Restaurant – Joe and Luigi
- Istria Sports Club
- Rudar Club

Carmen Zubovich provided the following Gift

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Mr. & Mrs. Damian Toich  
Rev. Robert Zubovich  
Mr. & Mrs. Rocco Yuriaco

Many Thanks to the project artists:

Natasa and Zora Griffel  
Renata and Marianne Muzich  
Natalie, Loraine and  
Zdravka Vlakancich

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**IMAS supports Dialysis Patients  
on the Islands**

by Maris Cividini

IMAS is committed to help dialysis patients on the islands. A special committee was formed from the IMAS Board to follow developments in Mali Lošinj. They are, chairperson Maris, Liliana, Ines, Marco, Anita, Ivanka and Rose. The committee reports that the Health Department in Zagreb has approved a Dialysis Facility for Mali Lošinj. The officials in Mali Lošinj have assigned the second floor of the Hospital for this department. Negotiations are presently going on to determine how and when this is going to happen. These issues change daily. We will keep you posted on the developments of this project. In the meantime, a new Ambulance was purchased by the Health Department to transport the Dialysis patients to Labin for their treatments.

**A Trip to Labin**



Members of IMAS, while vacationing, took a trip to Labin with the Dialysis patients. One hot, early morning day in August, Mario Dumicic, Maria Cividini and Ines Kucich took the long tiresome trip with island patients to the Labin Dialysis Center. The facility uses nine machines to serve 31 patients. The island patients have to be at the facility in the morning in order to be

able to get back home that same day. They wait patiently for each to complete the hours of treatment necessary to keep them alive. Only when everyone is finished, can they begin the long trip back home. By the time these patients are back in their own homes, it is evening. Imagine having to do this three times a week, in all kinds of weather and driving conditions? IMAS supports Dialysis patients and hopes that negotiations work out for the Dialysis Facility to open in Mali Lošinj.

### Dinner Dance in Mali Lošinj to support Dialysis Patients



"Studenac" from Nerezine



"Klapa Burin" from Cres



Members of "Udruga Penzionera"

In the summer of 2002, local people from Mali Lošinj and members of IMAS on vacation got together to host a Dinner Dance in support of the Dialysis patients. This first event was a big success. In July 2003, these same people decided to have a "repeat performance" and hosted a second Dinner Dance, which took place in Poljana. Local dignitaries, Dialysis patients, and over 250 people attended the event. The Folklore group "Studenac" from Nerezine, Klapa "Burin" from Cres and members of "Udruga Penzionera" were invited to entertain for the evening, all donating their time for this event. The group "Studenac" danced old folk dances. Klapa "Burin" sang old traditional songs. Members of "Udruga Penzionera" sang a medley of songs. Everyone danced, ate and had a good time enjoying old traditions. Again, this turned out to be a huge success. Thank You to Poljana Restaurant for providing all the services and Thank You to all who helped put this event together, especially IMAS President Mario, Maris, Liliana, Dusanka, Peter, Anita, Klaudio, Jasna and Rose. Will this become tradition? Stay tuned to find out.....

## IMAS meets members of the County Government & the Health Department

by Dusanka Marusic

In July of 2003, Zupan Zlatko Komadina, Podzupan Zoran Dragicevic and Dr. Vladimir Smesny officially greeted President Mario Dumicic, VP Dusanka Marusic, Treasurer Peter Budinich, and Board Member Jasna Dobrila. In the presence of local media, Novi List, Vecerni List, Radio Rijeka, TV Zagreb and TV Rijeka, Zupan Komadina welcomed help from our new group IMAS. He thanked everyone in New York, New Jersey and throughout the US who donated funds to help the islands. Mr. Komadina outlined the role of his administration as it related to health issues. He expressed support for our efforts and that of his office. Pod-zupan Mr. Dragicevic had a good grasp on the health issues on the islands. He reported on efforts in the hands of Zagreb dealing with Dialysis concerns. Dr. Smesny expressed a desire to correct the present health standards. Our wish to improve conditions was received cordially. The National Ministry of Health regulates standards and all capital improvements. Health facilities on the islands are funded from a district budget administered by Rijeka. Mr. Komadina reminded us of the limitations of the local economy and national directives in formulating plans for the future of the health system in the Zupania. We learned how some health issues are dealt with by the persons responsible for the conditions of the hospital and "ambulante" on the islands of Cres-Lošinj, Ilovik, Susak, Male & Vele Srakane and Unije. Our first meeting with the district officials helped us, as representatives of IMAS, gain perspective for future plans and confidence that our donated equipment is welcomed and will be maintained properly.



Mr. Komadina, Mrs. Marusic, Dr. Smesny, Ms. Dobrila, Mr. Dumicic, Mr. Budinich, Mr. Dragicevic

## Success Story

by Adriana Mikicic-Gladitz



We are happy to report that shortly after the installation of the X-Ray Machine, a woman's life from Nerezine was saved. This sophisticated machine discovered that she had a blockage in her main artery, which prompted an immediate medical intervention. This was discovered only because of this powerful updated machine. The old one that was being used would never have picked up something of this nature. Today she is fully recovered. She and her family are very grateful to IMAS and all the people who helped bring this X-Ray machine to Mali Lošinj. She said, "This machine is a blessing for the Islands". We are hoping to hear of more success stories like this one and know that our efforts are not in vain.

A THOUSAND Thank You's to all the people who helped complete this enormous task.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> Annual Golf Outing

One beautiful autumn day in October 2003, 80 "golfers" got together at the Rockaway Hunting Club in Lawrence, Long Island, for a relaxing day of golf. Everyone enjoyed the day, sharing laughter and having fun. The day helped raise \$ 9,700 for the benefit of IMAS. Special thanks goes to Dario and Liliana Muskardin for making this event possible, and to Cedo and Cathy Mara for their support. LOOK FOR THE NEXT GOLF OUTING IN OCTOBER 2004.



IMAS Exec. VP Liliana and husband Dario Muskardin

## IMAS Visits Cres Health Facility

by Dusanka Marusic



Cres Health Facility - Ambulanta

Mayor Gaetano Negovetic welcomed IMAS Board members, President Mario, Liliana, Dusanka, Maris, Ines, Anita, Jasna, and Klaudio to Cres. The mayor met our group at town hall and gave us a walking tour. Along the way to the Health Facility, Mr. Negovetic discussed issues facing his citizens. He had been working to improve the infrastructure of

the town with new road construction and plans to renovate the central town square. The town population is expected to continue growing. Aside from tourism, olive oil production is a main source of income for the local population. Our group walked to the outskirts of town to the new health facility. The main building provides medical, dental and emergency services for local residents. The clinic is well maintained and has some potential to introduce more services. Doctors' housing is available in a second adjacent building.

While touring the facility, the attending doctor identified heart attacks as the number one threat to patients. Quick treatment is the key to survival. Mr. Negovetic confirmed the need for defibrillators at the clinic. He would like to see two emergency teams fully operational. If one ambulance team is driving a patient to Rijeka or Losinj for care, a fully equipped back-up team is required to meet emergency needs.

Our host, the Mayor, spoke of the good working relations he has with the Mayor of Mali Lošinj in their joint effort to improve the conditions of the people of the islands. We came from New York and New Jersey via Mali Lošinj, Veli Lošinj, Cunski, Belej, and Martinscica to see for our selves where our efforts could focus. We thank Mayor Negovetic for his continued support.

At the end of our tour, Mr. Negovetic hosted a luncheon for his guests in Cres.



Luncheon in Cres with Mayor Negovetic, IMAS President Mario, Liliana, Dusanka, Maris, Ines, Anita, Jasna, Anita, Ines, Klaudio and Rita.



**2002-2003 Fundraisers**  
**IMAS Special Supporters**

Ines Kucich and Members of  
 Anchor Society  
 Ed and Jean Brumgnach  
 Dario and Liliana Muskardin  
 Cedo and Cathy Mara  
 Anton Benvin  
 Nick Benvin  
 Father Giordano Belanich

**2002-2003 Appeal**

**Thank You to the following**  
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Lussingrande Club  
 Society Chersina  
 Ilovik Social Club  
 Women's Club of Unije  
 Nasa Buducnost  
 Benevolent Society St. Francis of  
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 Dubrovnik Club

**Thank You to Cyril & Method**  
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 Milan Hroncich

Donated in Memory of loved ones

In Memory of Osip & Maria  
 Muskardin  
 In Memory of Nino & Antonia  
 Maracic  
 In Memory of Richard Budinich

Thank You to those that preferred to remain anonymous

Thank You ALL!!

Look for the 2004 Appeal brochure tonight!

Please forward your  
 donation to:  
 IMAS  
 c/o Peter Budinich  
 154 Ketay Drive South  
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In Memory of  
Barba Ivan Benvin

In Memory of Carl Butkovich  
from Bruna Butkovich

In Memory of Claudio Sucic  
from David Sucic

Thank You to those who  
wish to remain anonymous 1-2

Donations Total \$ 6,305  
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Thank You for your support!

Appeal Committee 2004  
Dusanka Marusic  
Giulio Vlakancich  
Teresa Zorovich  
Nives Mattiasich



IMAS (SRCE)  
by Adriana Mikicic-Gladitz

Kada nova zora puca  
Naše čežno srce otkuca,

Sjećanje na našeg dragog Jadrana  
To je nama duševna hrana,

Došli smo svi skupa  
Skupila se velika grupa,

Na te otoke smo se rodili  
Mladost i ljubav vodili,

To je naše rodno mjesto  
Gdje mi se vraćamo često,

"IMAS" srce organizacija  
rodila se nova delegacija,

Najvažnije je bilo  
Da se je jelo i pilo,

Bili su Cresani, Martinšćicani, Belejani,  
Osorani, Nerezinčani  
Čunskoti, Unijani, Ilovčani, Suščani,  
I najvažniji Lošinjani,  
To su svi naši paesani,

Bolnicu ćemo pomoći  
Gdje svi mještani mogu doći,

Da pomognemo otočnim stanovnicima  
Djeci, mladim i starcima,

Malo šoldi ćemo nakupiti  
Ljepu svotu skupiti,

Naručit ćemo jesti i piti  
A onda i Boga zamoliti,

Da nam da malo sreće  
Da napunimo naše vreće,

Mi govorimo Engleski i Hrvatski  
A ne fali nam i Talijanski,

Speremo in un' buon risultato  
Con questo nuovo comitato,

When you pick a rose  
Think of a good cause,

Open your Heart  
This is a start!

**Thank You!**

