



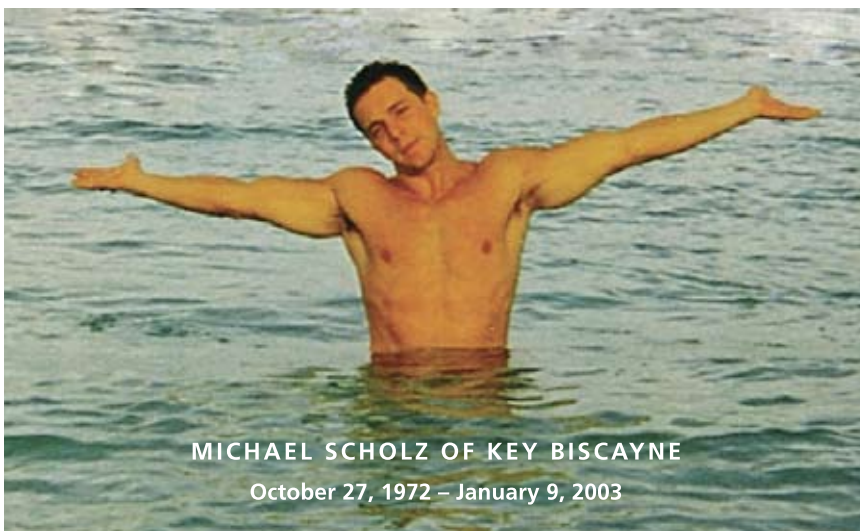
Michael Scholz Memorial Charitable Fund

HONORING MICHAEL'S MAGIC

SPRING 2009 VOLUME V



Mel Rubin relaxes with the campers after teaching them about conflict resolution.



MICHAEL SCHOLZ OF KEY BISCAYNE
October 27, 1972 – January 9, 2003

Michael's Magic Camp

Once again our campers were able to discover the great marvels of nature in the waters off Biscayne Bay. This year they explored the native mangrove forests that thrive on the salty Floridian coasts. After observing and learning about the great mangrove forests, the campers, with the guidance and artistic expertise of Edwin Villasmil, created a musical play about the ecosystem of the mangrove forests. Reciting a poem written by Marjory Stoneman Douglas, campers, masked as crocodiles, panthers, and pelicans pranced onto a stage. The camper's parents were invited to the presentation.



Big smiles aboard the Reward



TWO NEW SKILLS

Swimming and Gentle Fishing

This year we included two more important activities: swimming and gentle fishing. Swimming instruction for all of the campers was one of our largest and most wished for additions. This year the campers were able to leave camp with the satisfaction of obtaining a new skill.

We also introduced deep-sea gentle fishing aboard Captain Wayne Conn's fishing boat, the "Reward". The campers were taught how to fish and how to gently remove the fish from the line and send them back into the sea.

THE NATURALISTS AND COUNSELORS

Many of our camp naturalists come from the University of Miami, where they study Marine Biology. They are able to impart a great passion and knowledge on to our campers about each creature or plant found in the ocean. Our warm and loving counselors are high school students from Miami.

VISIT US ONLINE AT: www.michaelscholfund.com

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OUR MISSION

The Michael Scholz Memorial Charitable Fund was established in the spring 2003 to celebrate the passion for the outdoors displayed by Michael Scholz during his lifetime. In Michael's memory and honor, the Fund exposes youth from diverse backgrounds to the natural beauty of places such as Key Biscayne and teaches them about South Florida's fragile environment through enriching hands-on experiences. The Fund is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization.



Theodora Long and Susan Scholz-Rubin congratulate the youth on a magnificent performance.

A Harmonious Collaboration

Summer Camp 2009 will mark our 7th year working with Theodora Long. She has been Executive Director of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center since 1992. Our great collaboration has produced six years of an environmental camp providing a perfect balance of educational and exciting adventures that include: swim-

ming, drama, sea life exploration, art expression, and a variety of physical activities. Each year our camp becomes better as we work together to improve and incorporate more activities and open our doors to more underserved children. We thank Theodora, for her hard work and dedication to Michael's Magic Camp!

In the words of the campers...



**"I like when we can free swimming and I like catching all the little fish on the big boat."
Francesca, 8 yrs**



**"I love camp because I got to see so many little creatures and it was so fun!"
Jennifer, 8 yrs**



**"My favorite thing about this camp was that I learned how to swim. People would always expect me swim just because I was big. And now I can actually say that I can swim."
Jordan, 14 yrs**



**"I love camp! Can I come next year too?"
Rafa 12 yrs**



Ryan Yaffa's Giving Spirit

Ryan, Michael's cousin, dedicated his Bar Mitzvah project to honor the memory of Michael. He headed a drive and collected over 75 environmental books to donate to the Biscayne Nature Center for the campers of Michael's Magic Camp. The Board of Directors gratefully commends Ryan for his giving spirit and his thoughtful donation.

A Letter From Mel and Susan

Once again it is with pride and gratitude that we share with you the activities of the Michael Scholz Memorial Charitable Fund in this sixth edition of our annual newsletter. 2008 was a strong year and the Fund achieved many new milestones.

On January 9, 2008, marking the fifth anniversary of Michael's passing, a dinner and memorial gathering was held at our home. The evening was uplifting and bittersweet as friends and family came together to share memories and stories about Michael. We were warmed by all of those who attended.

Our Executive Director, Suzanne Bellucci, worked to secure two large grants from the Miami Cultural Affairs and the Miami Dade Community Foundation. These grants enabled the Fund to hold two sessions of Michael's Magic Camp and allowed many more children to participate. We thank Board Member Lili Poms and Theodora Long, Executive Director of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, for their dedication and hard work in preparing the grant proposals with Suzanne.

Upon completion of the 2008 summer camp program, our Board of Directors celebrated with a thank you dinner at our home for Director Theodore Long and all the Biscayne Nature Center naturalists and counselors.

On behalf of Michael, we thank all who have donated their time and money to the Fund during the past five years. We are especially grateful to our non-profit and corporate donors. We would like to invite additional financial support during the upcoming year.

Please visit www.michaelscholfund.com for upcoming information on our future fund-raising efforts.



Mel, Michael and Susan

Gratefully yours,
Mel Rubin and Susan Scholz Rubin

You Can Help!

SEND DONATIONS

Michael Scholz Memorial Charitable Fund
111 Majorca Avenue Coral Gables, Florida 33134

CONTACT

305-361-6166

ONLINE DONATIONS

www.michaelscholfund.com

The Michael Scholz Memorial Charitable Fund is a 501 (c) (3).
All donations are tax deductible as permitted by law. Fed ID #75-3105532

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE OUR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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ERIC LANG AND
THE KEY BISCAYNE FIRE
DEPARTMENT, WHO ANNUALLY
OFFER A TOUR OF THE FIRE
STATION TO OUR CAMPERS

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THEODORA LONG, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE MARJORY
STONEMAN DOUGLAS BISCAYNE
NATURE CENTER
WHO HOSTS OUR CAMP

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

It is through each and every one's spirit of giving that we are able to continue to reach out to the children who need our attention and care. We thank you for all your donations, big and small.

VISIT US ONLINE AT: www.michaelscholfund.com