

The Steven M. Perez Foundation

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The 7th Annual "El Rey Banana" Golf Outing will be held on Monday, July 12th at Tam O'Shanter Country Club in Brookville, New York. It is a day of tremendous fun, as well as a great sponsorship opportunity to get old friends together or bring a few clients out for a memorable day.
- The search for candidates for The 2010 Steven M. Perez Scholarship has already begun. Please contact The Foundation with potential candidates or other worthwhile opportunities.
- Special Event this fall in NYC place & date TBD

UPCOMING RACES

- Please join us in supporting Chris Singleton and Jon Rothschild for their first IronMan on July 25th in Lake Placid.
- Race #2 Team T3 with The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the SMP Foundation- to support 15 athletes competing in the NYC Triathlon on Sunday July 18th.
- NYC Marathon November 10th Scott Redler will be participating with the American cancer Society to Honor his mom's hard work as she battle Breast cancer.
- Conrats to Dave Adler Half Iron Man in Disney! Steven would be so proud!

This past year has made everyone pause, take a breath and look at how lucky we all are. As in so many crises, time, perseverance and patience have helped us on the road to recovery, and hopefully, the worst is now behind us. The purpose of The Foundation is to help people look ahead. We are always looking for new ways to help patients and their families through difficult times, to help them find a way to make the long battle more manageable, and for each of them to live their lives to the fullest.

2009 brought new opportunities to partner with the American Cancer Society (ACS) and with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We partnered with ACS to provide literally thousands of young fans the opportunity to visit the new Citi Field, enjoy a Mets game and see their names on the scoreboard. Seeing Paul McCartney live at Citi Field was an amazing opportunity for 400 lucky fans and the letters, acknowledgments and accolades that the SMP Foundation received at the annual ACS dinner were really so heartwarming, especially hearing the true appreciation from so many patients and family members that attended.

Through partnerships with local hospitals, social workers, guidance counselors and our own network, we identified fourteen deserving students that The Foundation could help to pursue their dreams. We expanded our relationships with camps like Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, Sunrise Day Camp and Camp Sunshine, all of which focus on the camp experience for patients and their families while providing the campers access to the medical treatments they need. This summer, we participated in an annual event at one of the camps. To see the smiles that brighten up the playground and the joy the camp experience brings to these patients and their families is an amazing gift we are honored to have a hand in providing. Our triathletes continue to train hard and raise awareness in Steven's name. Scott, Chris and the T3 Live team inspired many first timers to the "tri life" experience and we are so proud of all they continue to accomplish.

2009 has been our 6th year. When we reflect on what we have accomplished in Steven's name, it is incredible how fortunate we are to be able to continue to raise awareness and find new partners, as well as create a forum to showcase how much Steven meant to all of us and the legacy his memory is providing to so many deserving

patients and families. The Foundation takes tremendous pride in the way in which we honor Steven, like the Comedy Event, our 6th Annual Golf Outing and our 2nd Annual Poker Tourney this past fall. As we get older and his memory is not as vivid, these events remind us of his persona, how much he loved camaraderie and how he truly lived life in the moment. That was the way Steven lived his life and when you attend an SMP event you know it is going to be exactly the way Steven would have planned it.

Your continued generosity and support is what fuels The Foundation's programs and initiatives. The Foundation, the Executive Committee, the Perez Family and our friends cannot say thank you enough and express our sincere appreciation for all that each of you has done. We look forward to your continued support for what we have planned in the future. Our mission will remain to identify programs committed to helping people affected by these diseases, and to improving the quality of life for those suffering from Leukemia and other cancers. That has been our mission from the start and we know how proud Steven would be of all that we have accomplished. Your generosity has helped us raise almost \$150,000 this past year. This would not be possible without all of your support.

We want to acknowledge the Perez family, Jesse Elhai, friends like Jessica & Peter Goldring, Mellen & Jack Genatt, Tara & Eric Schiff, Celena & Scott Redler, Cheryl & Steven Dixon, Jen & Chris Singleton, Tracy & Glenn Hechler, Rich Park, Anthony Iufredo, Mike Schilling and Sal "The Stockbroker" Governale for their tireless effort, personal sacrifice and commitment to The Foundation.

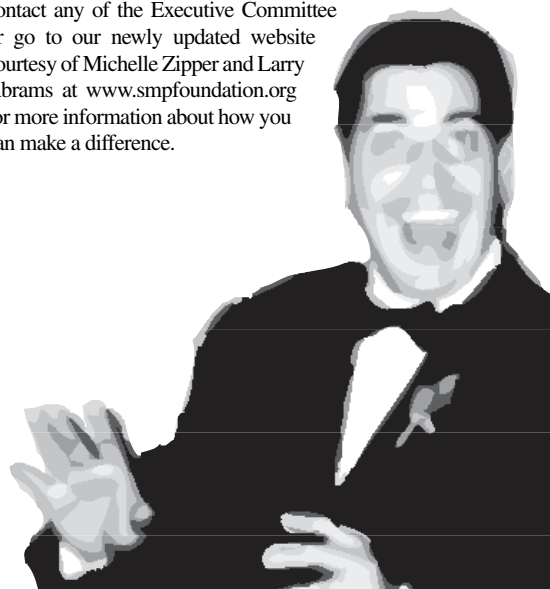
As a 501(c)(3) status organization, The Foundation is entitled to operate as a not-for-profit. This allows donors to deduct the value of their donations for tax purposes. The Foundation continues to look for new opportunities to help those who are affected by Leukemia and other related cancers. We are always looking for ways to celebrate Steven's life, to bring friends and family together, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events. Please contact any of the Executive Committee or go to our newly updated website courtesy of Michelle Zipper and Larry Abrams at www.smpfoundation.org for more information about how you can make a difference.

FOUNDATION & CONTACT INFORMATION:

For donations & general information:
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The Steven M. Perez Foundation is a not-for-profit organization operating under Section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are gratefully accepted

RECENT NEWS

February 2009 - \$10,000 went to Sunrise Day Camp in Wheatley Heights, NY. We sponsored 8 campers to attend the summer 2009 session and continue to find new ways to partner with Sunrise Day Camp.

April 2009 - The Foundation supported Camp Sunshine in Casco, Maine with \$15,000 for 2009, for 6 Long Islanders to attend camp this summer and for one family to attend the bereavement session.

April 2009 - The Foundation broadened its partnership with the American Cancer Society and the New York Mets to provide thousands of tickets for young patients and their families to attend Mets games at Citi Field throughout the season.

April 2009 - The Foundation co-sponsored an opening day event at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx with the New York Yankees. The staff, patients and their families decorated the Family areas in Yankees baseball-themed paraphernalia and planned an afternoon of activities and fun in honor of the big Opening Day at the new Yankee Stadium. Special thanks to Eric Schiff



June 2009 - Thanks to Sal "The Stockbroker" Governale and Dana Perez for making the 5th Annual Comedy Night at Gotham Comedy Club another great success. We missed Artie this year and hope and pray for a safe and full recovery.



June 2009 - The Steven M. Perez Scholarship was awarded to fourteen deserving high school students for a total of \$19,000.

June 2009 - The Genatt, Schiff and Perez families were proud to participate in the Walk to Help the Sun Rise, a non-competitive activity for people of all ages at Sunrise Day Camp. We invite anyone interested to join us on [June 7] for the 5th Annual Walk to Help the Sun Rise for a great Sunday morning event.



July 2009 - The 6th Annual El Rey Banana Golf Outing raised almost \$100,000 on July 13th at Tam O'Shanter Country Club in Brookville, NY. Thank you to all our players, sponsors and volunteers for making this day such a success.

August 2009 - Our tri team's success continued as Scott Redler, Chris Singleton and the T3 Live team motivated and trained many new participants to join the tri lifestyle and raise money in partnership with Team in Training and the Steven M Perez Foundation

September 2009 - Chris Singleton referred the Foundation to the Lynch family and we were able to do something positive for Ryan, their young son

December 2009 - Our 2nd Annual El Rey Banana Texas Hold'em Poker Tourney on December 14th was a huge success thanks to the efforts of Glenn Hechler, Rich Park, Steven Dixon, Scott Redler,

Jesse Elhai and all our volunteers. The Foundation raised over \$20,000 at Brother Jimmy's on Lexington and 31st in New York City. Sixty-seven players and many volunteers and on-lookers came to watch the tournament unfold. Congratulations to our winners, Eric Schiff and Derek Katz who generously donated a third of their winnings back to The Foundation.

January 2010 - Thanks to Craig and Melissa Giordano, The Foundation was connected to Steven Hirsch who so generously organized two sponsored tables at The Baseball Writer's Association of America (BBWAA) Dinner for some very lucky patients. This was truly a dream come true for some of the patients that were healthy and fortunate enough to attend.



January 2010 - Steven Dixon put us back in touch with an old friend, Jason Gold, giving us the opportunity to help his young son Austin who is fighting Leukemia. We hope our donation will help bring a smile and some fun to Austin and his family.

CAMP SUNSHINE IN MAINE

For several years The Steven M. Perez Foundation has been donating funds to Camp Sunshine in Casco, Maine. In the beginning, they had only week-long sessions for the summer months. The camp is equipped with a full medical team to cater to the needs of the campers. Camp Sunshine meets the challenges of many children stricken with all kinds of life-threatening diseases. Our donations have always been directed to the tuition for children battling Leukemia. We are very proud to inform you that our 2009 donation brought our total to \$87,000. With your continued support, we look forward to topping the \$100,000 mark in 2010.

Camp Sunshine has expanded its services to the community. They continue to have a residential summer camp for ill children along with their siblings and parents, and have added week-end camp experiences throughout the year, winter camp vacations and an extremely well-received

bereavement program. We receive thank you cards from the children and letters from their parents praising us for providing these experiences for their family. Each letter reflects the success of Camp Sunshine and the wonderful experiences your donations provide. Recently, we received a letter from a family who had attended the camp for several years and The Steven M. Perez Foundation was their sponsor. They are grateful for our "gifts". Their child lost his battle with Leukemia and attending the bereavement program at the camp provided them with a support network and a reminder of happy shared experiences in Maine.

Thank you for all your donations which allow us to continue our work on behalf of these kids.



THE STEVEN M. PEREZ SCHOLARSHIP

In the spring of 2009 we completed our annual search for qualified candidates to receive The Steven M. Perez Scholarship. This year we identified thirteen high school seniors who fulfilled our criteria and we were able to award a total of \$19,000. We were fortunate to search out these candidates through our contacts at local high schools, the social workers at Schneider Children's Hospital, FastWeb, and through personal referrals.

Andre A. is in remission from Acute Lymphoid Leukemia (ALL) and will be graduating from Martin Van Buren High School in Jamaica, Queens. As of our print date, he was still undecided on his next step, but we wish him well wherever he decides to go in the fall.

Mariah V. will be graduating from Bellport High School in Brookhaven this June. Her Hodgkin's disease is currently in remission and she will be enrolling in the Honors Program at Johnson & Wales University.

Cody H., also a survivor of ALL, plans to attend Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY to study teaching in the fall. He will graduate from Yorktown High School this June.

Kaitlyn G. plans to study nursing after she graduates from DeRuyter Central School this year. She is a survivor of adrenocortical carcinoma.

Joseph W. has survived non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. He plans to study accounting, either at Siena College or The College of St. Rose in Albany, NY. He will graduate from Mohonasen High School in Schenectady this June.

Justin F. will graduate from Long Beach High School this year with honors. His father lost his battle with Leukemia, and Justin plans to study Engineering at the University of Miami in the fall.

Erica G. also lost her father, to Lymphoma. She will be graduating from Keystone National High School this year. We wish her success wherever her road takes her in the fall.

Briana C. lost her mother to Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML). After receiving her degree from Bethpage High School this year, Briana plans to continue her studies at either Iona College or SUNY Cortland.

Paula R. will graduate from the Eastport - South Manor High School in June. She is the second member of her family to

receive The Steven M. Perez Scholarship. She is headed for Brooklyn college in the fall.

Jacquelyn T. will also be graduating from Eastport - South Manor High School this year. The school brought her to our attention at the same time as Paula. Jacquelyn was raised by her grandfather who recently lost his battle with Leukemia. She plans to major in Forensic Science at Penn State University.

Lauren S., another recipient graduating from Eastport - South Manor High School this year, suffers from Rhabdomyosarcoma, a skeletal muscle cancer. She will be enrolling at American University in Washington, D.C. to study International Relations in the fall.

Heather K. plans to become an Occupational Therapist after she graduates from Sachem High School this year. She is currently in remission from Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Christopher G. has already been accepted to the Pre-Med Program at the University of Pennsylvania for next year. His 15 year-old brother has bone cancer and his father has non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Brook P. plans on studying Criminal Justice. She has Hodgkin's Lymphoma and is currently undergoing treatment.

We are pleased to see that about half of our recipients are winning their personal battles against Leukemia and/or Lymphoma. When we award The Steven M. Perez Scholarship, we make it a point to tell the recipient that he/she can use it toward tuition, books, or "anything that would put a smile on your face". A very large part of our mission is to spread Steven's message to "live life to the fullest", no matter what. He knew quite well that the benefit of higher education means more than just what is learned in the classroom - it means quality of life.

We thank all our donors for allowing us to continue to put a smile on the face of someone who is fighting their own uphill battle due to these diseases. If you know of a candidate, please contact The Steven M. Perez Foundation. We wish all the recipients well and look forward to hearing from them about their success in the future.



THE METS & THE SMP FOUNDATION PARTNER WITH THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY



We continued our relationship with the New York Mets and the American Cancer Society in 2009. Eric Schiff again worked closely with the NY Mets to provide thousands of tickets to patients and their families. We co-sponsored events with the American Cancer Society, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and with various other corporations and foundations. The Mets were particularly impressed with our ability to distribute tickets to so many worthwhile groups while, at the same time, we were able to build relationships with at least 3 new partners.

Over the course of several games, The Foundation, the NY Mets and the American

Cancer Society sponsored thousands of young cancer patients and their families to enjoy at least 10 different fun-filled afternoons and evenings at the new Citi Field. During the game, welcome messages to The Foundation and the American Cancer Society were displayed on the scoreboard. This partnership made it possible to provide this opportunity to many more deserving people than either organization could have done on its own. The Foundation's name and message has since been featured at many ACS events and on their giveaways.

At an American Cancer Society commemorative night where The Steven M. Perez Foundation was acknowledged, Ted

Vlavianos could not have been more grateful for the partnership. Many of the attendees came over to personally thank The Foundation for our generosity and remind us of the joy it brought to them and their families. More than anything, the young patients who were able to get a break from their own personal battles to just be kids and have some fun made it worthwhile.

We are proud to have been able to brighten the lives of so many patients, supporters and families that attended, and we would like to thank Eric for all his hard work making this partnership happen.



CAMP RONALD MCDONALD FOR GOOD TIMES® - 2009

The Steven M. Perez Foundation is a strong supporter of Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times®. Since 2006, the powerful partnership between these two organizations has allowed 50 children with Leukemia to attend summer Camp. The mission of Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times® is to create a positive, long lasting impact on children with cancer and their families by providing fun-filled, medically supervised, cost-free, year round camp programs.

Camp's Program

Nestled just outside of Idyllwild, California, Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times® features fourteen year-round sessions for children affected by cancer. They offer five week-long summer sessions for children between the ages of 9-18. Knowing that cancer affects the entire family, siblings of patients are invited to attend Camp, as well. For children 8 years old and younger, the entire family goes to Camp for a long weekend, which allows the families to learn about the program and all that it offers. The activities at Camp include swimming, fishing, horseback riding, nature studies, ropes challenge course – all adapted to meet the special needs of our special campers. In 2009, Camp served a record-high 1,839 campers.

The Magic of Camp

Camp is a very special place for children with cancer because for one week out of the year, they can escape all the pressures and agony of living with their disease, and be surrounded by other kids who know and understand them. At Camp, they feel safe and secure, while they participate in all sorts of activities and programs they can't do at home or in the hospital. Most of all, they can feel like any other kid at Camp, rather than the kid in the wheelchair or the kid with cancer.

For children who are battling a challenging disease, a week at Camp may be their only

chance to see beyond their cancer and experience a world of unexpected possibilities. Being away from home and hospitals allows these kids the opportunity to recapture some of the childhood innocence that their disease has taken from them. Camp allows these campers to realize they are not different from their peers and that they can have active lives and do all the things that cancer-free children do.

Campers

The campers who attend Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times® are some of the most amazing young people. They deal with issues and challenges that would overwhelm and horrify an adult. One such example is Melanie, one of Camp's many heroes. Older sister to Rachel, her life was full of school, sports, dance classes, friends, and activities. She was always on the go and had more friends than songs in her iPod. When she was 14, she started to have some health issues and test results revealed that she had Leukemia. Always the high-spirited and energized one, she refused to give in to this disease. She faced each day of her battle with cancer head-on, determined to do better than the previous day. Her treatment and therapy took a little over a year, and in that time, Melanie became an inspiration to all who knew her. Her doctors, nurses, teachers, coaches and friends, even parents of friends, all marveled at her attitude. Several of her nurses were volunteers at Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times and suggested to Melanie's parents that she attend. One session was all it took for Melanie to be hooked and she knew Camp was a very special place for her.

During the year, Melanie visits the Pediatric

Oncology wing of her hospital every month to meet the patients. Some she knows from previous visits, some she remembers from her stay there as a patient, but there's always a new face to be found. She offers them hope and encouragement and shares her own experiences with them. She brings a photo album/scrapbook with her that captures her week at Camp, and she describes the people and activities in the photos as she talks to patients. She always tells the patients that Camp is waiting for them so they have to hurry up and get better.

"I never, ever thought that someday I'd be touring hospitals and talking to people about a Camp for kids with cancer, yet here I am," says Melanie. "Even though I tried really hard not to let cancer change my life, it did anyway. And it was hard. But Camp brought things into full circle for me. At Camp, I realized I am not different from everyone else – I just caught a bad break. But, in the process, I learned so much about me and my abilities, about the

people who love me and about all the things I can do in spite of living with cancer. The most important is to help people going through the same thing. You can be scared, that's OK – but you don't have to be alone. And I never feel alone at Camp."

Melanie is only one of the many young campers who have been dealt a terrible hand. She is also one of the countless heroes who come to Camp looking for help, hope and comfort that

they know they won't find anywhere else. The Steven M. Perez Foundation reassures kids like Melanie that they are not alone and that hope, friendship and inspiration are waiting for them at a place called Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times®.



AUSTIN DESERVES A GOLD STAR

A few weeks ago, Steven Dixon called us and said, "You remember Jason Gold, a friend of Steven's for 20 years, his family is going through so much that sounds too similar to the Perez story". Their young son Austin was diagnosed with Leukemia (ALL), and on that day he went directly into the hospital. He went in 99% high risk cancerous and 1 month later came out in full remission. We are so happy to say he has remained in remission ever since.

Austin is currently into the second to last (and hardest) phase of his treatment. Austin has been a trooper throughout and has never asked why he has to go to the hospital, he just goes.

He was in preschool at the time of his diagnosis and still asks his mom and dad if he'll go back to school one day. Besides his family, books are his favorite thing in life. You can show him a book of

paintings and he'll tell you the artists' names for most of them.

Austin has a 1 year-old sister, Jordana, whom he adores. They spend a lot of time together because Austin's immune system is so weak, it's not safe for him to be around too many other people, especially other kids his own age. Austin and his family have endured more than anyone should have to, let alone a young child. This ordeal has resulted in him having to grow up way before his time. As so many of us are parents and grandparents to young children, we can all say that Austin sounds very brave and we pray for an end to his illness. The SMP Foundation has donated \$1,500 to Austin and his family and hopes that they can do something together that will make Austin feel like a regular kid, even for just a short time. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Gold family.



SMP GOES ALL IN TWO YEARS IN A ROW!

The 2nd Annual El Rey Banana Texas Hold'em Poker Tourney was held on December 14, 2009 and again was a huge success. The event was a great showing with 67 entrants and featured great food, too many drinks and lots of action on the tables which led to an exciting evening of re-buys and pot bullying as the all too familiar "ALL IN" was usually followed by a much lower toned "RE-BUY" all night long. The action was fast and furious during the first hour as unlimited buy-ins and plenty of alcohol fueled the courage of our players. The second hour brought a quickening contraction of the crowd as the tables started to consolidate.

Finally, we came to our final table, where the stacks were piled high and the crowd was reveling in free booze and anticipation to crown the winner. The night ended like most first dates in New York City, a little too quick and with a sense of anti-climax as the two finalists split the pot leaving the crowd wanting more.

It didn't take long to remember why we were all there, however. The Foundation raised over \$20,000. Special thanks and congratulations go to our two winners, Eric Schiff and Derek Katz, who generously donated a third of their winnings back to The Foundation. Also, special thanks go to Gabe

Landau at ESP Entertainment for setting up the tables, chairs and dealers, to Jenny Conway and the great staff at Brother Jimmy's on Lexington at 31st Street, and to our many friends who helped

make this such a successful event: Jenn Berk, Brooke Koster, Shera Lashin, Sybilla Slavin, Rachel Perez, Glenn Hechler, Scott Redler, Jesse Elhai, Steven Dixon, and Rich Park. Thank you everyone who worked so hard to pull off this great event. We couldn't have done it without you.

Please keep an eye out later this year for the 3rd Annual El Rey Banana Texas Hold'em Poker Tourney. We hope to see you all there!!!



NICHOLAS ON THE ROAD TO WELLNESS

About a year ago, the story of a little boy and his family in Brooklyn came to our attention. In September 2008, when Nicholas M. was only two and a half years old, he was diagnosed with High Risk Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). His tiny body was devastated by the disease and his parents were overwhelmed with the burdens of caring for their sick child. Nicholas' father lost his full-time job and his mother had to quit work altogether in order to care for him. Very soon, the combination of lost income and rising medical expenses put them in debt. Last year, Nicholas' father began searching out any means of support to assist his family in their struggles. With the help of social workers at The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC) where Nicholas receives his treatments, his father has reached out to many charitable organizations, including The Steven M. Perez Foundation. Staff at TBHC assured us the money would go directly to rent, and we were happy to lend a helping hand. We sent Nicholas' family a

check for \$1,000.

Nicholas has been responding well to his treatments and his ALL is in remission. Unfortunately, he suffers from a rare side effect which caused lower body weakness and rigidity. This has severely impacted on his growth and development, making it extremely difficult for him to walk. With the help of the many therapists working with him at TBHC, Nicholas is gaining strength and mobility every day. His family has been sending us regular updates on his progress, including a Christmas card. Coincidentally, Nicholas was even able to attend a week-long session at Sunrise Day Camp last summer, where, his father reports, "He had a blast."

We are happy to say that Nicholas is improving every day. His parents have been through so much, and they continue to maintain an upbeat outlook for their son. We are humbled by a family still able to smile in the face of such a struggle, and we are honored to play a small part in Nicholas' story.

YANKEES' AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT MONTEFIORE

In April 2009 The Steven M. Perez Foundation was the proud sponsor of the Yankees Opening Day Festivities at The Children's Hospital at Montefiore (CHAM).

Steven's love for the Yankees and the fact that Montefiore Hospital is located in the Bronx, this seemed like the perfect event for The Foundation to host.

With the help of our donations, the staff at CHAM were able to transform four in-patient units into "Yankee Stadium". They brought in large screen televisions to watch the game. Lunch included pretzels, hot dogs, hamburgers, cookies, ice cream, popcorn and cotton candy, all the foods one would expect to enjoy at a Yankees game. During lunch, games were played and everyone at the event received official Yankees gear. It was a fun afternoon for the kids,

and hospital staff.

Steven always loved going to the games; he loved the excitement and camaraderie of being a Yankee fan. We were proud to be a part of creating an afternoon for the fun and fellowship watching baseball can provide. For these patients and their families, enjoying the simple pleasures of a day at the ballpark is not an option. Having the ability to bring a little of the ballpark to them is one of the reasons we do what we do to honor Steven's memory.

The Children's Hospital at Montefiore provides a variety of specialty health services for families and patients to be educated about their disease as well as providing the emotional and physical support and accommodations to help them throughout their treatment.

In our continued efforts to sponsor events and partner with organizations which reflect Steven's view of life, we reached out to this local hospital to host an event during the New York Yankees opening day game. Between



The 6th Annual El Rey Banana Golf Outing

On July 13, 2009, we were proud to host the 6th Annual El Rey Banana Golf Outing at Tam O'Shanter Country Club in Brookville, NY. It was a beautiful day for our full field of players and volunteers, followed by cocktails and dinner. As always, the day reflected Steven's love of life, his love of golf, and his efforts to always be surrounded by friends and family. We are thrilled to report that we raised almost \$100,000 this year, and we have all of our players, sponsors and volunteers to thank for once again making the El Rey Banana such a successful event.

It has been said many times before that Steven loved to play golf. That's kind of like saying Steven loved to dance. Sure, he enjoyed it as a sport and as a pastime, but I think, for Steven, it was also about bringing people together. If you went out for a round with Steven, it wasn't just for camaraderie and cigars. He had a captive audience for four hours. Golf is a game that forces you to be in the moment, to concentrate on what you are doing and who you are with, right then and there. Just like Steven always did.

This year, that spirit held true as it has for the past five years. To start, players were checked in with a smile and a relaxing breakfast. Teammates found each other, the picture was taken, and we were off to find our starting tees. There were games throughout the course, plenty of food and plenty to drink as the day wore on. After the round, we came inside to cool off at the bar, enjoy the silent auction and preview the raffle prizes. There was an array of items on offer – jewelry, sports memorabilia and trips to a variety

of places were among the most sought after. Congratulations to Glenn Reeder who won the trip to Vegas for the Mid Summer Nights Dreams event this year. Dinner was a great time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. It is a true testament to Steven that so many people who knew him continue to come out for the day and honor him year after year, and also to the Perez family that so many people who never had the chance to meet him are eager to take part in keeping that memory alive.

In the early days of The Foundation, it was easy to get people to contribute and participate; times were good, Steven's memory was fresh, and it seemed all we had to do was pick a day and do it. Times have changed; many of us still struggle financially and have begun our own families, changing our priorities. It is easy to give, both time and money, when you have plenty to spare. The generosity of players, volunteers and sponsors cannot be mentioned enough or appreciated enough.

Without the support of people like you, willing to write checks, take off work and give of yourselves, we would never be able to continue our mission. The money raised has already gone to some truly deserving people – sending some to camp, helping others with college and everyday expenses.

Steven taught us to "live life to the fullest." Nothing embodies that sentiment quite like the El Rey Banana Golf Outing. We are planning another fun-filled day for this summer, so mark down Monday July 12th on your calendars to save the date for our 7th Annual El Rey Banana Golf Outing, or check our updated website for more details. See you on the tee box!



The 5th Annual Comedy Night

On Friday June 12, 2009 the Steven M Perez Foundation hosted the 5th Annual Comedy Event at Gotham Comedy Club located on 208 W. 23rd Street in New York City. With over 300 people in attendance we successfully sold out another event. Sal "The Stockbroker" Governale once again was able to bring together a full lineup of talented comedians who were willing to donate their time for an incredible cause. We are especially grateful to them as they all donated their time in a year that was financial tough. The line-up of comics from "The Howard Stern show" including Geno Bisconte, Mike Boccetti and the new comics like Jessica Kirson added to the laughter.

The Foundation auctioned off a tour of "The Howard Stern Show" studio and the opportunity to be on "The Wrap-Up Show" hosted by Gary Dell'Abate and John Hein, every Monday through Thursday after the Howard Stern Show.



The generated approximately \$30,000 for The Foundation. We would like to express our appreciation to everyone who helped plan this event and to those who attended for making our 5th Annual Comedy event another huge success. We are sorry that the Redlers and Singletons were not able to join us. We extend a special thank you to the Hechlers for bringing such a big Westchester crew to the event. We appreciate all the continue hard work from "Dana's Girls", Michael Schilling, Anthony Iuffredo and all of the volunteers for making these event bigger and better each year. A special thank you to Dana and Jesse who worked particularly hard this year to make sure the event was fun for all that attended. It

is important for The Foundation to continue these events on an annual basis in remembrance of Steven. A night of laughter is a true tribute to Steven and all the laughter he shared with his friends and family each and every day.



The Baseball Writer's Association of America Dinner

Thanks to Craig and Melissa Giordano for introducing The Foundation to Stephen Hirsh, an incredibly generous man. Stephen spends his free time teaching kids about baseball and for the past several years has independently sponsored two tables of patients, mostly with Leukemia and brain tumors, to attend the annual BBWAA Awards Dinner in New York. We were proud to partner with Stephen to sponsor tables for the annual event in January 2010. This is a big event for baseball fans, as it provides a rare opportunity for fans and professionals to meet and spend time together. We received the attached from Stephen:

"The NY BBWAA dinner with the kids from Schneider's [Children's Hospital] was a complete success. I wanted to thank you myself and the children whose hard-fought donated dollars you so nobly contributed to this very special night for them. I think you are making your brother so very proud. I wish he were here for



you to see the smile on his face. He must have been one really great guy for you to honor his memory in the way you do."

One of the attendees, Cary, was a guest patient from Schneider's. Cary was lucky enough to get a picture at one of the tables with New York Yankee third baseman Alex Rodriguez. There were other stars that stopped by the table that night as well including Bernie Williams, Joe Girardi, Rusty Staub, Jeff Francoeur, and Joe Nathan (closer for the Twins). Then while entering the VIP room they met the granddaughter of Babe Ruth, Linda Ruth Tosetti. All the kids met Albert Pujols, Zach Greinke, Tim Lincecum, Ron Darling, and Don Zimmer, as well as other ballplayers too numerous to mention here.

Stephen went on to say that the night was so special and he was so grateful for all that we did to help these deserving patients enjoy a very special and rare opportunity. It was our pleasure to partner with Stephen for this event, and we look forward to continuing to partner with him in the future.

A Sister's Memory

It was a beautiful Tuesday afternoon in June 2003 when I received a call from my brother Steven. He asked me to leave work immediately and meet him at his apartment. As always in such instances, I questioned his motives; it was a beautiful day and he probably didn't want to be at work, but out doing something fun in the sun. I asked him, "Are you kidnapping me to go to the beach or something?" "Just please come meet me," he said, and I knew he was serious. As soon as we got into the elevator of his building, Steven turned to me and said, "So I have Leukemia." At that point, I knew nothing about this disease. As soon as we got into his apartment, straight out of Jerry Maguire, with his hands swinging all over the place, he said, "I am not going to freak out like you think I am."

None of us thought in 2003 that life would change forever for so many people who knew and loved Steven. Growing up as Steven's younger, and only, sister was always an adventure. The stories are endless, like the time he locked me out of the house barefoot in the middle of winter and stood by the window waving to me, or the time when I was four years old and he thought it would be funny to put me on top of the refrigerator where I couldn't get down. Throughout my life Steven may have tortured me, but the truth is he was a role model too, and played an integral part in making me the woman I am today. Steven had the most contagious personality; everyone who met him always wanted to be with him. Steven's zest for life, carefree nature and love for his family and friends was always in the fore.

Steven may have been selfish in his own

way, but he was always the most giving person, especially when it came to his "baby sister." I will never forget New Year's Eve 2001. I went to Miami with my girlfriends. We were laying out by the pool when Steven called and said to go to the concierge's desk right



now. As usual, when Steven told me to do something I did it. To my surprise, there was a package waiting for me. Inside was one of every kind of candy and chips from his office vending machine, cash and a note that read, "To my Banana, Enjoy and do something fun with the girls tonight."

There is not a day that goes by that I don't think of my brother. Every holiday, birthday and life milestone that passes, Steven's presence is missed. Whenever I meet new people, when they hear about my brother, they will immediately say, "I'm so sorry." But the truth is, I'm sorry for them because they will

never have the honor of knowing my brother. On the other hand, when I meet someone who knew him, they always have a Steven story to share. While it may sadden someone to talk about a person who has died, I just love talking about my brother Steven. My brother Rickey and I share Steven stories all the time. The smile we share is priceless, and then we remember, and we say how it really sucks he is not here with us. We are very fortunate to be surrounded by so many people who knew and loved Steven. The reality is that life has gone on without him, but he has changed the lives of everyone he knew forever. Steven's loss was the greatest loss I have ever had to endure but I feel fortunate that I knew him for 23 years of my life.

The loss of my brother has been the biggest tragedy of my life. Although I miss him very much and think of him very often, I remind myself of his best trait, to live life to the fullest, and I try to follow his example. I try always to be strong, but there are some situations when I am overcome with sadness. In a few months I will be married, and my brother will not be there. He will not tease me, he will not dance with me, and he will not make the funniest speech about his little sister.

Through our Foundation we have been able to keep Steven's name and memory alive. I find this to be both gratifying and therapeutic. The love and energy Steven created in his life live on and continues to help people even now, seven years later. Nothing will ever replace my brother, but knowing that his memory helps others is a great comfort and source of pride for me. I know he would be proud of the woman his baby sister has become, and his spirit will always be with me.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM THE FOUNDATION

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