

## Remembering Past *Galaxy* Conferences - More Memories from Members

Mary Ann Lienhart-Cross (IN), Vice President for Professional Development

As we approach this year's *Galaxy III Conference*, several of our members have shared their reminiscences of previous *Galaxy* conferences they attended. If you have never attended a *Galaxy* conference, make *Galaxy III* your first. If you have attended before, we hope you will join us again this year!

Luann Boyer, affiliate member from Colorado writes:

"Even though I provide educational resources in different program areas, I have neither the time nor financial resources to belong to all the professional associations and attend their annual conferences. I look forward to the *Galaxy* conferences to provide a broad perspective for programming as well as the face-to-face networking with professionals across the country. It gives me the opportunity to get out of my FCS box and see how I can utilize other educational efforts in my local programs."

Kathleen Metzenbauer, affiliate president from Wisconsin shares that one of her colleagues attended the *Galaxy II Conference*, and told her:

"Attending *Galaxy* in Salt Lake City widened my professional insight, as I had an expanded opportunity to attend professional development sessions that were very interdisciplinary in their approach. This approach engaged my interests and aided my ability to interact with fellow colleagues from other disciplines with similar interests."

Nancy Pauly, affiliate president from South Dakota recalls:

"I was an award winner during the Salt Lake *Galaxy* conference; I will always remember the standing ovation, cheers, music, clapping, pats on the back as we were paraded to our special seating in front of the podium. It made for a touching vivid memory in my career journey."

Attending *Galaxy* is a wonderful setting to network with co-workers from other areas of emphasis across the nation, as well as having the special time with your own states coworkers on 'states night out'.

As an FCS Extension Educator, I also provide educational outreach within youth development/4-H and other interdisciplinary areas, so I am always seeking new ideas and methods to educate. The *Galaxy* concurrent sessions allow for that opportunity."