

MOST Moms of Quadruplets, Quintuplets & Sextuplets Enjoy a Southern Welcome in Nashville Tennessee

By Donna Perry, mom to twins: ^Daniel^ (9/00 - 4/01) & Joseph (6) and quadruplets Amanda, Samantha, Olivia, & Victoria (4)



Every year, the members of the MOST-QQS group/forum plan a "mom's only" weekend getaway. The 7th Annual MOST-QQS National Gathering had the largest turnout ever, with 34 members meeting in Nashville, Tennessee from July 14 - 17, 2006. This was my 4th National Gathering, and each time I am amazed at how a large group of women take on the impossible task of agreeing on a city, a date, and a hotel. Many of us have never met in person, yet we all feel a special bond through our online forum conversations. Those bonds are strengthened when we get the chance to meet in person.

Through the hard work of Barrett Russell, Julie Gant, and Ellen Holt, we had the opportunity to stay at the beautiful Gaylord Opryland Hotel. The grounds of the hotel are just stunning and it proved to be a perfect place to find gathering spots to sit and chat with our friends. We enjoyed some true Southern Hospitality at a welcome dinner at Miss Scarlet's Tea Room. Many of us took

advantage of a little pampering at the Relache Spa, where we enjoyed the most delicious strawberries covered in Godiva chocolate- a special treat arranged just for our group.

While the hotel is a destination itself, many members of our group ventured out to see the sites of Nashville. Some took in the local night life with a trip to the Wildhorse Saloon and Coyote Ugly where we danced the night away. One highlight for me was hearing my friends break out into song at the Ryman Auditorium (the original Grand Ol' Opry building) while we were taking a group photo. "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound...."

But nothing was sweeter than getting a "shout out" and hearing a live dedication to MOST and the special mothers of Quads, Quints, and Sextuplets at the Saturday night performance at the Grand Ole Opry by Steve Wariner. Our entire group was more than a little misty-eyed when he sang Glen Campbell's, *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle*, in our honor.

"...There ought to be a hall of fame for mamas, creation's most unique and precious pearl..."

The fabulous weekend included late nights, hanging out, laughing, and crying. We shared stories and sought advice. We admired each other's strengths and found so much youthful energy left in these ladies who spend their days knee-deep in diapers, sippy cups, laundry, activities, and PTA. We now can hear their voices in our heads as we read their emails and posts. The common bond of raising HOM brought us together, but our weekend away brought us closer in ways we never imagined. I am really looking forward to finding out what part of the country we will meet in in 2007!

If you are the parent of Quads, Quints or More please make it a point to join the MOST QQS forum for some unique empathy, support and some wonderful laughs!

