

VENTURA COUNTY *Showcase*

Realtor knows her community inside and out

BY MARGARET ALDRICH
SPECIAL TO STAR HOMES

Gwyn Goodman of Gwyn Goodman Realty enjoys a rare status as a fifth generation Somis native, which provides her with not only a thorough knowledge and understanding of the ins and outs of the area's real estate market, but also a wealth of vivid memories and highly entertaining stories that have been passed down through her family.

With over 30 years in the real estate business, Goodman capably serves Somis, Moorpark, Camarillo and areas to the north. She assists buyers and sellers with transactions involving ranches, estate homes, and residential properties, with a particular emphasis on her greatest area of expertise — agricultural properties.

Goodman has lovingly curated an immense collection — a treasure trove of historical photos and memories both from her own life and from the lives of the family, friends and neighbors who came before her. Goodman describes a time when folks worked and played together.

The advent of the automobile in the 1920's enabled multiple families to travel together often on camping and hunting trips in the nearby mountains. On these extended trips, it was not unusual to see clothes hanging in the trees on wash day. These family excursions continued into the 1950's, as life-long friendships had been firmly established. Children and adults alike enjoyed and entertained themselves with simple pleasures in the wide open spaces of the forests and the mountains.

Although much has changed in this area over the years, it has managed to retain the quaint charm and essence of a simpler time — community, family and hard work. Like Goodman's own family, many of the area's residents are families who have made this place their home for generation after generation. Many of those who grew up in Somis and moved away now finding themselves coming back again to reclaim their legacy and re-establish their roots. Goodman emphasizes the sense of community still to be found here. Although neighbors may not be in close physical proximity to one another, they are joined by the issues and interests they share. It's a close-knit community, where if you need anything, all you have to do is ask.



Above, Sam Mahan and his family return from a trip to Mammoth Lakes in this undated photo. The children pictured here attended Santa Paula High School.

Goodman sums up the beauty and charm of her hometown, saying: "All who experience time in the area realize that they have been exposed to an unusually beautiful area that is the jewel of Ventura County."

For expert advice and assistance on the purchase or sale of your home, ranch or agricultural property, contact Gwyn Goodman at 987-6695 or by email at GGoodmanRealty@aol.com. To get a fascinating glimpse into the past in the Somis and Moorpark area, view her website at www.gwyngoodman.com.



Realtor Gwyn Goodman and her family have lived in the Somis area for almost a century. Here is an historic photo of Tommy Wilson and Lett LeRoy.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GWYN GOODMAN