

G4B Go for Baroque

FEATURE STORY: STEPHEN GOFORTH

GOFORTH AND FISH

Picture this - an old red Nissan pick-up 4X4 with mud tires and a camper shell with a driver in a cowboy hat and boots bounding across the ranch with a varmint rifle and fishing rods headed for one of the best fishing holes on the property! Or, a '60 model Massey Ferguson Super 90 fully restored with a bush hog cutting roads, or just the peaceful morning with the first light or placid evening with the waning sun in a secluded deer stand. You have just identified some of Stephen Goforth's favorite pasttimes.

Ever since he could remember as a small boy he dreamed of owning his own piece of the outdoors. His father, a missionary outside of the country, shared the same dream. Together their dreaming became scheming and eventually led them to a couple of prime outdoor parcels that have become reality. The Goforths have hand-planted nearly 60,000 trees on their Florida property, and they donate their farm house to various Christian organizations around Florida to use for retreats and camps year-round.

All the Goforth grandchildren, including Stephen's two sons, have learned to drive at an early age under grandpa's guidance on the farm.



They also have learned to work and play with the best of them! The Oklahoma ranch is leased for cattle so the work is limited to organized play. It is not uncommon for Dr. Goforth to have 4 to 6 boys by himself up there eating popcorn and watching videos by night and catching fish and driving the truck by day. On occasion there have been as many as six different fathers with their sons or daughters spending time together at the same time.

As Stephen says, "We really do not own the land - we are just tenants for the brief time we are here on earth. Our job is to take care of it and enjoy it while our maker allows." For more information, visit goforbaroque.org or call 405-840-0278.