

RV Secrets 2 - The Awakening - by Rob Scribner

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by Rob Scribner

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This is book two of the RV Secrets Family of Ebooks.

I am Rob Scribner, also known as Rangerrob (<u>www.rangerrob.com</u>), and I am blessed to have been married to my wonderful wife Sherry for 28 years now.

For the last year or so, we have been studying lifestyle changes reading books like "The Secret" and "The New Earth". I was so pleased to find out how to define our happiness and enjoyment in the RV lifestyle. Sherry and I had discovered much of what those books were teaching, we just did not know how to communicate it to the world.

This mission of this book is to share the RV lifestyle. Not by just getting up and going, but to help explain the positive and healthy emotional changes you will encounter along the way.

This book may also help you before you make that big decision to become an RV junkie. We will share our emotional gifts with you, and tell you about other people we have interviewed about this subject.

Thank you for purchasing our book, and please protect its privacy, by respecting its copyright. Enjoy.



What is the RV Awakening?

Let's just call it happiness!

Yes, the one thing all of us are looking for. That urge we all have to find peace and contentment.

It not stuff, it's not our roles, and it's not our money.

The best way to put it is, when we die, there is only so much they can fit in our coffins, and the funny part is, we won't even be in it after we die.

After so many years of playing our roles as employees or employers, as mothers and fathers, as community leaders, or volunteers, it comes down to self. The only person or thing out there to make you happy is you.

If you are like me, you have gone through life collecting stuff, creating a role for others to define you as who and what you are; only to find it was never complete. You never seem to make enough, buy enough, or be involved enough. You just keep trying to get more of everything.

Then one crazy day, we got the idea to start full time RV living. This was the beginning of a new life for our family. We did not know at the time we were beginning to learn the secret to life itself, happiness.

What is my role now?

Just like facing retirement, becoming a full time RVer can be hard on your Ego. Who am I, how will I contribute to society?

My answer to that is "More Than Ever".

I cannot count the number of RVers we have met that are involved in many State and National Park programs. They are teaching, helping, guarding, and supporting our recreational parks. This is a chance to educate visitors about parks and wildlife programs. What a privilege this is, teaching something that is truly important to our nation and the future generation of parks.

This is just a fraction of the positive impact you can have out there. Think about it. Doing what you like, like what you're doing, wow! You could help the Red Cross, help food banks, or do some work-camping. (More about this in our other books). The list is endless.

Your role in society just took a step up, not down.



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Understanding the RVer

You will hear from every RV DVD, RV book, and RV magazine about the wonderful lifestyle of the RVer. What is the real magic? Why are so many so happy?

Most of them do not know why, but there is a big reason for it. They gave up their form for self awareness. I know, that sounds pretty deep, but it's true. They have to give up their homes, or reduce their material things to make the RV travel life possible, not knowing they were actually freeing themselves from the dark hole we all live in, called "form".

We all do it, we all go through life trying to define ourselves by our money, careers, our kids, our homes, cars, and much more. What it really comes down to is who we are as a person in spirit and an awareness of being.

Before my wife and I could begin full-time RVing, we had to go through 28 years of collected stuff. I will never forget starting the process. Each day we took deep breaths before jumping in to sort our worldly belongings. We had to make the decision about what to keep, sell, or give to the kids. This is not an easy process.

But as each day went by, the happier we seemed to be getting. To this day, I could not explain why this was happening, but after the last few months of reading "The Secret" and "The New Earth," I believe I can now understand what happened.

We had to give up our form, our roles, and our collection of stuff that made us who we thought we were. But as we started getting rid of it, we discovered our own self awareness. We were still Rob and Sherry, even without all that stuff. People now met us, the real Rob and Sherry.

Also as an individual there is a real stress release as each item goes away. One less item to be responsible for, one less item to store, one less item to maintain.

Yes, as might be expected, you have a feeling of confusion for a short time, trying to identify with items to define yourself with. This is called your" ego." However, when it's all gone, you are forced to look at your spirit and your partner as your connection to life. You become a real person, a loving person, a happy person.

Outsider Looking In

If you have not started full time RV living, or you're a part time RV'er like we are now, I bet you have done the following when you first heard, or met a full time RV person, or couple. You may have asked questions like:

- How can they live like that?
- They have nothing!
- What are they going to do when they are too old?
- What do their families think?

The answer to all the statement above is, "NOW"

Full-time RVers are living their day in the "NOW."

As I get older, I am finding it very important to be grateful for each moment. When I wake up, I am grateful for another day in this world. Can you stop at this very moment and look around and be grateful for this moment?

Think about this, as an RVer, you wake up, you look outside at whatever surroundings you have traveled to, and you hear the sounds you like to hear. You are surrounded by other happy people, you can think about all the things you love and do not have to be responsible for. You can look at your soul, your energy, your spirit. Are you able to do that now?

We all keep planning. Setting goals we will never keep. We are caught up with maintaining our roles and having material items. It's so hard to stop and take a moment to be grateful for NOW. We are all like hamsters on a wheel, going no-where. If we could just stop, take a deep breath, and be grateful for this moment, that would be the beginning of happiness.

When we look at those crazy full time RV-living fools, are they really the radical people we first judged them to be, or do they know something we don't know? I bet most of them could not totally define what they are doing or why they do it, but they are very happy. Believe it or not, they are probably closer to their maker than we are. They understand pure spirit, that the world is just made up of temporary form, always changing, never permanent. But our spirit will go on forever.



Let's Label It

For many of us, the need to label everything in our lives is still with us. So let's start with the question "What do people think of us?"

The label for this one is "Envy."

Outsiders looking in may first say "How can they do that?" At the same time, they wish they could do it too, but they cannot comprehend giving up all they know; not knowing what each day will bring or how they could manage such a lifestyle.

What will my family think?

The answer is "Envy" again.

They will shake their heads a few times, and then wish they could find a way to live like you. You will also find them bragging about you later, telling everyone what you are doing and where you are.

What will my maker think?

His or her first answer would be "You're not bringing all that stuff up here!" Rumor has it, our maker is more interested in what kind of a person you became, and did you understand the true meaning of happiness? Our roles and material achievements are not listed anywhere as a requirement to heaven.



You did it, what happens now?

This book is not about how to become a full time RVer, but to visit the mindset of the lifestyle, understanding the emotions and feelings. It will be different for everyone, but all of us have common thoughts.

"GIULT"

Yep, that's the first emotion I can remember feeling once we hit the road. After 47 years of conforming to society, I felt guilty.

I was no longer part of the society engine. I was now a society drop out. This may sound harsh, but it was true. I was no longer a business giant, I did not have the house that defined me as a success. We did not have roles to maintain or the material items that made us what we were.

Was this my father talking? A man of conformity? Was it from all those years of building my little empire, and raising my kids to be the best?

I did not know what planted this seed in my head, but it was there the whole time. I later would be able to define what it was, by reading a book called "The New Earth".

It was my EGO!

I wish I could have identified it back then, and managed it, since it finally convinced me and my wife to return to Oregon eight months later, buy another house, and conform to society again. Now we are official part-timers.

Now don't get me wrong, I am happy, but I am sad that I was so close to total awareness of happiness, yet my ego still overcame it. It's a very strong emotion.

There have been a lot of benefits to becoming a part timer, but yet I imagine everyday being back in the freedom of the full-time RV lifestyle. I tasted freedom like I have never tasted before; a happiness of living with less stress and wonderful people. I see another attempt in the future.

Before you start you RV living lifestyle, I suggest you do some soul searching. Try to educate yourself about you. I know that sounds strange, but that what it's all about. Not your friends, relatives, or society. They cannot define your happiness. Only you can. Your Ego will try to overpower you, since you are giving up those items it identifies with. You need to know how to overcome it. Hit the books.



What's in store when you hit the road?

I know this book seems a bit deep, but it is the deepest secret you should know about entering the RV Freedom lifestyle.

But now, let's talk about what's in store for you.

Here are a few words that define it:

- Happiness
- Freedom
- Enjoyment
- Fascination
- Respect for our country
- Friendship with others
- Spirit of living
- Enhanced love of your spouse
- Adventure
- Excitement
- Sense of being small in a large world
- Amazed

Your world will be totally different. You will see every state in the USA just like different countries. Each one has a culture of its own. It's truly amazing.

The friends and acquaintances you meet will be not be like any relationship you have ever had before. True friendships are in store for you. You will be meeting people from every level of society. Yep, even the rich have society issues.

Life and relationships will be on a level playing field for all you meet. No longer is the construction worker, executive, housewife, cook, or business owner role important. You now meet people for who they are as individuals not what society branded them as or the role they formerly played.

All these people look at their past experience and use the tools they've learned earlier in life to accomplish needs of the now. They take each other's past skills and blend them together to fulfill what needs to be done. That all.

Yes you still have bills, income, and health issues, but at a new and different level. Just like normal living, if you want something bad enough, you will find a way to make it happen. We will be creating many more "RV Secrets" books to address many of these issues.



One of the greatest feelings you will get is the sense of smallness. That's a good thing. Many of us have lived in one place, or region for most of our lives. We sometimes forget the world is much larger than where we are today. That feeling changes very fast, once you hit the road.

The USA is vast. You cannot imagine just how big it is until you are on the road. Like I said before, "Each of the 50 states is like 50 different countries". Each one has a culture and beauty of its own. You must see it to believe it. You will begin to understand history better, and why our county functions the way it does, good or bad. It just may make you a better citizen.

Other items we will be addressing in our next book and DVD, is the "Next Generation of RVers".

Yes, do not think the RV lifestyle is just for retired folks. That's a myth. Many younger people are finding they can function in society and be an RVer also. This can be the blessing of the internet.

I am one of those folks. I own an internet company that allows me the freedom to work from anywhere. Many companies are supporting virtual workers, which now allows some folks the freedom to work form any location with internet.



Every Shape and Size

There are people of every shape and size that RV, and that's great. But this chapter is about the RV itself.

As an RVer, you will begin to notice hundreds of different makes, models and sizes of RVs out there. So let's address that.

Of course we all live with our EGO. And some RVers apply their ego to their RV, but most of them do not. I must admit, my wife and I have a pretty nice motorhome, but we did not go overboard.

Here is how I see every RVer, when it comes to what they are using, whether it's a trailer, fifth wheel, or motorhome, **"They Have Found A Way?"**

What I mean by that is they found a way to become an RVer with the resources they have. That's what I mean in my other books, when I say, "The Cost Is What You Can Afford." Anyone can RV. There is a solution for everyone. You do not have to have a new RV, a big RV, or a million dollar RV. Find the RV you can afford and will make you happy and then just go!

You will never hear me belittling anyone with a smaller or different kind of RV than what my wife and I use. I respect the fact that they **"Found a Way".** If anyone says different then it's just their EGO talking.

I have been amazed by the versatility and ingenuity people have found to survive the RV lifestyle. Take the time to meet these people; you will gain a great respect for them. You may also learn something.



Material Items we gain, But do not maintain

In order to make our Ego feel better, let's talk about what we gain in the RV world beyond our emotions. I have created a small list, you can add to it based on your interest:

- Swimming Pools
- Golf Courses
- Hot Tubs
- Lawn Sports Equipment
- Pot Lucks (My Favorite)
- Club Houses
- Lakes, Ocean, and Rivers Fronts
- Green Grass
- Garbage Service
- Bath Houses
- Internet
- Electricity
- RV Dumps
- Work Out Rooms
- Laundry Rooms
- Fire Pits
- Live Music (Some Places)
- RV Mobile Services Come to you

These are just a sample of items you do not have to be responsible for. Very different from when you owned them. Do not get me wrong here, we all must respect them and use them responsibly, but you do not live the role of the maintenance person anymore.

Yes, we all have to pay for RV camping, but I guarantee you, the cost is a fraction of what it would have been if you had all this at home. If I want a million dollar view out my window, I drive to the Ocean RV Park. If I want peace and quiet, them I drive to BLM land, away from others. If I want excitement and city life, I drive to Vegas. All for a fraction of the cost of a home.

So the next time someone says "Look at What You're Giving Up". Just hand them your list. I think someone is mistaken.



RV Humor

Okay, I admit, I have been way too serious in this book; sorry, but not all secrets are funny. Hopefully I will make up for that in this chapter.

Most folks do not talk about some of the funniest things that happen when you are RV living. If you **Love**, and **Like** your spouse, then you will have a lot of funny stories to live with. Some cannot be told to others, but trust me, there are some great humorous moments. Hopefully I will not get in trouble with my wife.

Here are some:

FLUFFING:

I'm sorry, but I truly think there should be "**Rules Of Engagement**" for fluffing in an RV. These rules should be posted on the wall for all to see. I have yet to find an RV that can take that kind of abuse. These rules should also apply to your dog. That's all I should say about that!

RV PARKING LANGUAGE:

Here is an issue that can cause men to go hungry. Backing and parking the RV without killing your spouse. I truly suggest you create an RV parking hand signal language that covers every condition. I amaze myself every time I say something stupid when my wife and I do not communicate correctly. It's like a demon takes over your soul during the parking process. This is the time your relationship with your spouse gets tested.

LEVELING:

Here is my beef. Leveling the RV for my wife. I get sick at my stomach as soon as my wife pulls out that darn bubble level device. I sit outside, trying not to have a heart attack, cranking the jacks another inch to get that darn fifth wheel level. Like most guys, I am happy to sleep with all the blood in my head.

Thank goodness we bought a motor home with hydraulic jacks. Now my wife can spend every waking moment leveling the motor home, without my health at risk.

THE POOPY BAG:

I talked about this before in my previous book, "RV Secrets 1," but it is a subject that needs to be talked about again. Mostly to send the message out to the folks who do not take proper responsibility for their pets.

I admit I was not first in line to start scooping up after our Chocolate Lab. That first time had to be a sight to see. But now, it's a competition between me and the wife. Now we actually go to the pet store looking for cool "Poopy Bags". By the way, that was my Wife's name for them.

There are Poopy Bags of all colors and form. As if anyone really cares. We do, we like to make a fashion statement. I cannot go anywhere without asking if I remembered my wallet, cell phone, and Poopy bag. It like the RV badge of honor in our place.

So, be proud, be cool, never be Poopy Bag Free.

THE EVENING OF HELL:

Writing about this story may end my career in writing books. My wife will see to that. But it's the funniest story; I still smile when I think about it.

This happened when we owned a 35 foot fifth wheel. We were at an ocean region, and we spent a wonderful day in the tourist area, shopping and looking around. We found a

small little fish and chips specialty shop. Of course we had to try it out. Not knowing the hell we were about to enter.

An hour or so later, we started on our way back to the RV park, when I felt the strong desire for some restroom time. I mean the serious kind of time that could cause some real embarrassment. I found myself driving a bit faster.

As soon as we got to the fifth wheel, off I ran to the rest room inside. It was not a pretty site, but that's when I was exposed to "The Dark Site of My Wife". It seems that my wife suddenly had the same problem as I did.

All I could hear was my wife yelling, "HURRY UP". I could hear her running up and down the small stairs, like a step master, threatening me. I never laughed so hard in my life, but of course, I was in the relief room, and she was not. It was like having a person on the other side of the door possessed. I swear her voice went three octaves lower. Yet I was still laughing, in pain, and trying to get done with business.

I was almost afraid to come out. Thinking my wife's head was spinning around like in the exorcist. But she was only focused on getting in next. I can now say I have heard sounds that no one should ever hear.



Love and Like Your Spouse

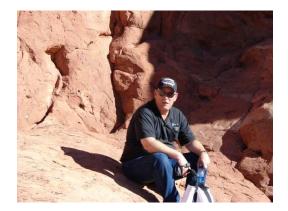
This brings me to a very important subject. **Living in close quarters with your spouse**. When younger folks enter the RV lifestyle, they may not have had as much quality time with their spouse as a retired couple may have had.

So here is the major secret, and it may sound simple, but it's not. Do you **Love** your spouse, and do you **Like** your spouse.

This can be a major factor in whether or not you should try full time RV living. Not all couples can live so close. As I saw on one video, you are within striking range of your spouse 24/7. Love is not enough. You must like each other. Your spouse must be your friend. This is very easy for older couples as physical emotions fade, and friendship emotions emerge.

I cannot imagine doing most of my hobbies and entertainment without my wife by my side. She is my best friend. As best friends, we can get through almost all crises situations smoothly. We stopped the cat and mouse game years ago and now are a team. Trying to figure out together where our new life is going; trying to awaken to the gift of life seated side-by-side.

Your relationship will be tested every day. You will learn to overlook the small stuff. You will become a better couple, or you will have to go back to the old life, which is okay also. Not all folks can live so close.



Dreaming RV Travel

If you are like us and are Snowbirds or what they call "part timers," one benefit to living with home ownership stress is "HOPE." The dream is alive.

My wife and I talk about the next trip everyday. The trip destination changes day-to-day, but it's always in our thoughts. We now know that we can give up on the society role at any time and hit the road again.

I swear I watch the Travel Channel more now than ever before because I know many of the places featured are within my reach.

Not long ago, the Travel Channel featured the great canyons of Utah and Arizona. So two months later, we spent six weeks in Utah visiting the canyons. It's was much better in person than it was watching the show.

The other thing I hear all the time is that a lot of Snowbirds have a set of friends they meet up with every year. People come from all over the country. Many go to Yuma, Arizona or Quartzsite to reunite each winter. It's a special time to get away from colder weather and be with friends that you have met through the RV lifestyle. You do not have to travel all the time. You just need a mobile house to relocate once in a while.

Solutions to Travel

This book will not be going into the details of the following solutions. We are just going to address the questions that come up that seem to prevent you from trying the RV lifestyle.

Every person or couple have different physical conditions, but there are solutions. I have met people with a parent they are taking care of. I have also met RVers with health problems and handicaps, yet they are still out there.

Some have benefited with RV living with health conditions, since now they can go to any state and get the treatment they require. Persons who have lost their spouse no longer deal with loneliness since they can go to regions where there are others also are looking for a partner or friendship. You would be surprised at how many older couples I have met that have both lost their spouses and now are traveling together.

Some people have used the lifestyle to support their career in construction, design, and consulting, as I also do. I get tons of new business and teach seminars to people about how to earn extra income on the internet.

The big items holding people back are money, health, family, and stuff. Each one is not a deterrent, but just an obstacle. Just take a drive to any RV park and start talking to the folks you meet. They all have solutions and ideas to share that will help you move forward. Read a few books, and order a few DVDs. They all are very helpful.



What about Gas Prices?

A lot of people ask me how I feel about gas prices. My answer: Spend one hour less in the casino.

It is truly less to travel in an RV than the total cost of airfare, rental car, and motel. For example: We love going to Las Vegas from Oregon. It will cost about \$360 in gas, one way for us, at the current rate of about \$4.19 a gallon. A total of \$720 for the round trip.

Because we have a membership to RPI we stay at a five star RV park for \$10.00 a day. On the way down to Las Vegas, we stay in Reno for free, so there is no charge for travel days.

We also use our own car, so we do not have taxi fares to deal with either, and we go to casinos away from the "Strip" for better food, winnings, and service. We save hundreds of dollars going to our favorite places.

I think I would be more concerned paying the gas prices in other countries. I believe gas prices in the United States are still cheaper than in other countries. It wouldn't hurt me to stop eating also, but I guess that's another issue.

The best thing to say to gas prices is, find a solution, it's only an obstacle. Find a work around. Quit buying fancy Poopy Bags.



Spouses New Tricks

My wife will love this chapter.

Yes, I will admit it. In order to keep my wife as my friend, I have had to learn some new tricks. Little things, like putting away items at all times. Hanging up my coat and washing dishes.

I cannot believe I am putting this in writing.

The RV lifestyle has to be an organized lifestyle or you will go insane. If you start the habit of, "**Everything has its place**" rule, right away. You will be much happier -- so will your spouse.

I am getting worried, between fashion statement Poopy Bags and daily chores, my wife seems to be training me pretty well. Old dogs can learn new tricks.

It is important to create a good process of daily living in an RV. Organization in the RV makes for less stress, you don't want to let the living areas of the RV get out of control and have only one person concerned about it. I admit it is an ongoing process for me to keep up my part of the team. But I have never regretted it. If I am good, my wife gives me treats.



More New Tricks – Its digital

You may not own as much stuff anymore, but your memories are unlimited. Before you start your RV travel, you should invest in a good digital camera, video camera, and digital editing software; and maybe a new computer, too. I suggest a good laptop. They are just as powerful as the tower computers and they are affordable.

You have to document your journeys, if not for you, for your kids and friends. Not everyone can travel like you, but they sure enjoy learning about it. It is very easy now to edit pictures and video and then upload them everyday for family to see. Just make sure you buy cameras that are easy to use and will take quality pictures.

Make sure you both learn to take pictures. If you don't, people looking at your pictures will see a trip with only one person, with, perhaps, a tag along photographer. You may also want to have a tripod to take special pictures of both of you at the same time.

So now when you go out the door, you have to take your purse, wallet, cell phone, poopy bag, AND now the digital cameras. It's like having a baby again and all the stuff that goes with them. Well, not that bad. What was I thinking?



Last Comments:

RV Secrets 2 was written to touch your heart, feelings, and emotions, before, during and after your RV adventures. Not everyone will have the same reactions and feelings, but most will come close.

I hope we came close enough to let you know, "you are not alone in your thoughts".

Whether or not you become an RVer, we only want you to live in happiness. This is just one consideration you can make for your future.

I urge you to feel free to email us at anytime. Tell us your stories and give us your feedback. We love to hear from you.

Once again, thank you so much for reading our book.



What's Next?

Boy, do we have a lot of projects.

Our biggest project is our new DVD called "RV Today – The Next Generation" Click here to view

This DVD will be exciting and full of interesting facts and new generation RVing.

Of course, make sure you read our first Ebook: RV Secrets – "What they do not tell you" Click her to view

RV Secrets 3 is still in creation mode, when available, please visit: <u>Click here to view</u>

All of these projects are being created with love. We try to create a fun and informative RV forum for all. We truly hope you enjoy them.

I also would like to remind you that I **teach internet income classes and seminars**. If you or a small group would like me to speak, please contact me on the following link: <u>http://www.earn-extra-income-education.com/seminars.html</u>

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