

Our Runners-Up

All of our nominees for the 2009 RVer of the Year Award deserve accolades

Fred and Suzanne Dow

Sharing their love of U.S. forests by compiling campground directories

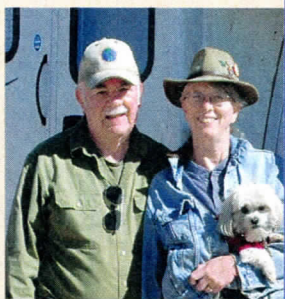
Some RVers never stop working after retirement, and Good Sam members Fred and Suzie Dow are no exception.

After Fred cleaned out his desk at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Suzanne taught her last lesson as an instructor at George Mason University, they pursued their dream of visiting Forest Service campgrounds across America.

Soon, their passion for these national gems turned into a labor of love. Driven to create a comprehensive Forest Service campground directory, the Dows visited and researched 2,345 campgrounds on 153 Forest Service lands.

The Dows share their meticulously compiled data in their *National Forest Campground Guides*, which contain information on campsite fees, RV accommodations, scenery and surrounding recreation. Available in soft-cover books and on CDs, each of the four volumes covers one of the Forest Service's regions. Campground information can also be found on their website, www.forestcamping.com. Next in the works: a guide to U.S. National Grasslands campgrounds.

When the Dows aren't documenting national campgrounds, they reside in Bisbee, Arizona.



Tom Gonser

Leading the drive to implement RV lemon laws

Good Sam member Tom Gonser racked up an impressive legal career that included working as a corporate attorney and serving as executive director of the American Bar Association. Since retiring, Tom has kept an iron in the legal fire. As chairman of the Good Sam Club's RV Owners' Advisory Council, Tom spearheaded an effort to draft model lemon law legislation, a project that involved the RV industry, the International Association of Lemon Law Administrators, the Good Sam Club and others. Once it's adopted by state legislatures, the law will give motorhome owners significant protection.

Under Tom's leadership, the four-year-old RVOAC has focused on surveying RVers and conveying their priorities to the RV industry and legislators.

