

Arizona License Plate Society

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Name: Tom Denny
Birth Year: 1944
ALPCA #: 11946
Residence: Chandler, Arizona
Occupation: Retired bank president / Now owner of small handyman service

How did you start collecting plates? Was there someone who was your mentor?

Sadly, I am a pack rat. I have saved my plates and our three children's plates for 47 years. Mentors are difficult to come across. The ALPCA members who have been the most help have been Clark Wothe, Bob Sharp, Wally Punzmann, and Dean Sandvold.

How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?

In about 2006 there was a meet in Gilbert. I visited it and thought that collecting license plates would be a good hobby. It took until 2014 for me to finally join ALPCA.

What plates do you collect and which are your favorites? Where do you get most of your plates?

Having just completed collecting all 50 states I am upgrading my plates now. I also am collecting plates from Indiana, Kentucky, Texas, and Colorado. These are places we have lived or where my children live.

Do you have tips for newer members on the best places to acquire plates?

Yes, just ask everyone you come into contact with. Almost everyone has plates in their garage and most people are pleased to give them to you to enhance your plate collection.

How often do you make it to Arizona License Plate Society events?

So far since joining ALPCA I have attended all events with the exception of one when I was out of town.

Which plate in your collection has the best story?

Two plates come to mind. First, my 1944 (birth year) from Kansas (mini during the war years) and my 1946 Illinois soybean plate.

How many plates are in your collection? What types? What do you wish you had more of?

I have about 1200 or so – but only about 20% are mint to good grade. The rest are of lesser value. I am searching for the base plates for states above.

Do you display your plates?

Yes, I display my plates in my barn's peg board on the mezzanine.

What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?

I have several other activities – Boy Scout Chaplain, Kiwanis Club (38 years) Director and Past President, Maricopa Sheriff's Posseman, church finance committee and mom's group in addition to running my handy man business mentioned above.