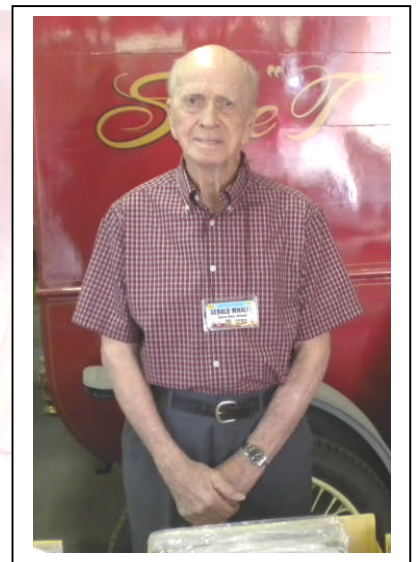


Arizona License Plate Society

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Name: Gerald Whaley
Birth Year: 1918
ALPCA #: 3292
Residence: Sierra Vista, Arizona
Occupation: Retired



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

I started collecting license plates back in Illinois. I wanted a low number plate for my car; therefore in December 1956 I received Illinois plate number 80797. I moved to Indiana in 1971 with 16 Illinois plates with the same number. I joined ALPCA in 1980. No, I did not have a mentor.

How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?

I read about the Arizona Regional in PLATES Magazine

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

My favorite plates are a collection of plates with the number 800. I have 49 of them. I obtained most of my plates from ads in PLATES magazine, some from garage sales, flea markets, and ALPCA regional meets.

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

I would recommend looking for plates at garage sales, flea markets, and regional meets.

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

I try to get to Arizona meets once a year and sometimes twice a year.

Which plate in your collection has the best story?

In 1984, I acquired my first Arizona plate in Indiana at a swap meet. It was a passenger 1932 plate. I traded several Indiana plates to get this plate! I also obtained a Wisconsin fireman's plate with number 19, which was the fireman's number. This was obtained by my son who was visiting in Wisconsin and saw it at a cranberry processing plant. The owner said he had another one and be proud for your dad to have it in his collection.

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

I have about 5000 plates in my collection. I have all types of Indiana plates and a few types from other states. I wish I could finish my Indiana runs. I have 32 state runs from 1930's on up to 2010. I also have 81 license plate frames!

Do you display your plates?

I have my plates covering the inside walls of my garage.

What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?

I collect Jim Beam whiskey bottles and Ezra Brooks Wild Turkey bottles. I also collect key rings, old magazines, and clocks.