

# Arizona License Plate Society

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**Name:** Paul DeBelling  
**Birth Year:** 1963  
**ALPCA #:** 7379  
**Residence:** Wickenburg, AZ  
**Occupation:** Retired IBEW Local 11 Member



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

When on vacation as a kid in a 1968 Chrysler Town and Country Station Wagon, my mom made up license plate games for me and my three brothers. Later in life I went to a friends house that had plates, I thought it would be a cool hobby and started going to swapmeets in Southern California where I met ALPCA member Ken Cheesman who told me about ALPCA and I joined in 1996.

### **How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?**

As an ALPCA member I found about other state meets and found out Arizona had many members and meets.

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

I started doing the birthyear thing and home state California before moving on to Arizona and focusing on Arizona plates. I get most of my plates through internet ads, ebay auctions, license plate meets, and swap meets.

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

I would suggest internet sites and plate meets are the best places to find plates these days.

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

I usually make it to 2-3 ALPS meets per year.

### **Which plate in your collection has the best story?**

The plate with the best story is probably a 1969 Arizona plate given to me by my uncle who lived in Scottsdale who took it off of his VW Bug.

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

I own probably 600-700 plates as of today. I have Arizona, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, and California runs. 1963 motorcycle birthyear set and many Arizona city and town plates and toppers. I've also put together a large Arizona governor plate collection. I wish I had more toppers and different city plates.

### **Do you display your plates?**

I display my plates all over my garage walls.

### **What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?**

I have a 1958 VW Bug I restored and have owned over 25 years now. I am in a VW club. Der Kleiner Panzers and also collect memorabilia from my town of Wickenburg.