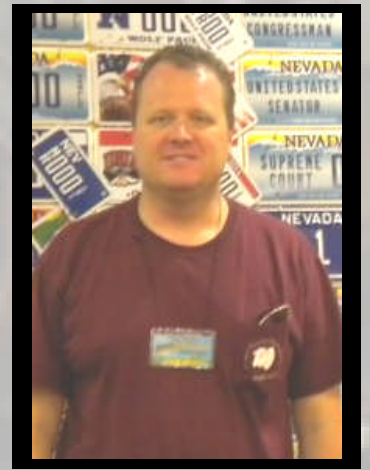


Arizona License Plate Society

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Name: Clark Wothe
Birth Year: 1970
ALPCA #: 6191
Residence: Phoenix, Arizona
Occupation: Internal Auditor, Certified Public Accountant

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

My Grandfather in Illinois used to give me the old Illinois plates from his car. One Christmas while visiting in Illinois, a relative named Ray Straw gave me a stack of old Illinois plates. He was from Sycamore and many of the plates had the "SY" prefix. Back in California, I met John Boal at a ham radio swapmeet and he introduced me to ALPCA. In later years, there were several in the club who helped teach me more about plates, but my mentors were probably Greg Donaldson, Wally Punzmann, John Boal, and Roy Carson just to name a few.

How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?

Originally I lived in Southern California and attended meets out there. When I moved to Arizona I attended which meets I could. I had a great time at the meets, and eventually Joel Kimmet and Julio Abraham approached me about being an officer. I was Secretary from 2000-2004 and President since 2005. It's been a fun time and I enjoy putting on meets for other collectors. I am also the ALPCA Regional Meet Chairman.

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

I mostly specialize in recent non-passenger types and also all types from Illinois, Arizona, and California. But truth be told, I collect anything interesting and inexpensive. I get almost all of my plates at license plate meets. The selection and the prices are much better than you will ever find online.

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

The undisputed leader in license plates is the ALPCA national convention. If you are able to attend a convention, it does not get any better. Closer to home, there are great regional meets in Arizona as well as most of the other Western states. I attend some out-of-state regional events each year.

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

I've been to every Arizona regional meet since 2000. That gives me a consecutive streak of 58 meets!

Which plate in your collection has the best story?

When I lived in California, John Boal said "Go down to Motor Vehicles and order the Bill of Rights plate for \$36." I did, and the plates that showed up were not that impressive. I kept them on my car for about a year and a half before I moved. Now, these are some of the rarest California plates in existence and I have a nice pair - #0321-US. Sometimes ordering plates right from Motor Vehicles pays off!

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

According to the database I have 6193 plates. Funny since my ALPCA number is 6191!

Do you display your plates?

I display some in my garage. I also love displaying at meets but I don't always have the time to put together an impressive display.

What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?

I am also into Disney theme park, sports, and Presidential Campaign memorabilia