

Arizona License Plate Society

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Name: Gerald Rohler
Birth Year: 1954
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Occupation: Retired

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

I lived in Los Angeles CA for 50 years and never noticed plates at all. When I moved to Prescott Valley AZ, I bought a vanity plate that said "Arizona – it's all good," then I bought another that said NJOY AZ. After that I wanted a plate from every state. Charlie Myers was and still is my mentor. Sad, huh?

How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?

Charlie Myers. He said if I really liked plates I would really enjoy the ALPCA club and so I joined.

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

I collect any anniversary plates including Centennial and Bicentennial. Being born in Ohio I also collect the older Ohio plates. I guess my favorite would be an older pair of 1919 Ohio plates. I get most of my plates through our regional meets and always finding something you need and learning.

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

Seeing that I myself am a pretty new member I think that with all the plates you see at meets it would be hard to find a better place. If you go to yard sales, always as even if you don't see any. You'd be surprised what you might find.

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

I go to as many as I can afford. I usually attend about 3-4 per year. If I could though, I would attend all of them. Some of my best times have been at our meets.

Which plate in your collection has the best story?

I have a New York Statue of Liberty Centennial Plate I got at one of our regional meets, nice looking plate, which reads "JBOAL." I thought that one to be interesting.

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

Only about 350. Like everyone else, if it jumps up at you and you can afford it you buy it. It doesn't have to be one that you are looking for. I like to collect the Arizona city plates also.

Do you display your plates?

I have about 130 plates on my backyard fence. I am one of our smaller collectors. But no one has more fun!

What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?

I go to a lot of yard sales. Prescott and Prescott Valley have many. I find cool stuff and sometimes plates, it is also good therapy! I also collect Abraham Lincoln stuff.