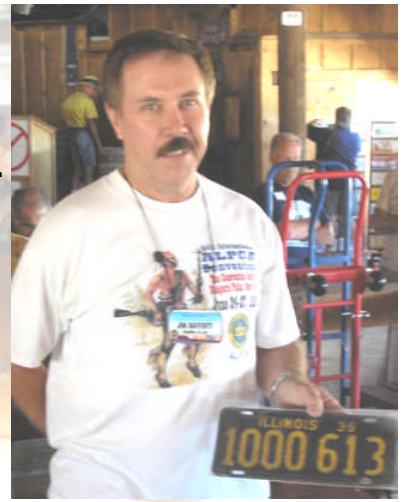


Arizona License Plate Society

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Name: Jim Rafferty
Birth Year: 1948
ALPCA #: 7997
Residence: Chandler, AZ
Occupation: Sr. Manufacturing Technician – Intel Corp.



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

I started collecting DAV Keychain license tags around 1955. Since they came in pairs of two and most people only had one car, I got the spare. Since I lived in Illinois and had a family in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, I had some variety. DAV's were cool because they were an exact replica of my family's real license plate.

How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?

After moving to Arizona from Illinois in 2003, I looked up the local meets and found ALPS.

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

In addition to collecting DAV's of all 50 states from 1942-1975, I also have a nearly completed run of full-sized 1976 Bicentennial (graphic) plates, featuring my own personalized 1976 Illinois plate off of my 1972 Chevelle.

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

For DAV's I prefer ALPS or ALPCA National Conventions, however, I will occasionally make an exciting find at a garage sale or antique store.

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

Unfortunately with my work schedule, I usually can only make it to 1 or 2 meets per year.

Which plate in your collection has the best story?

In 1975 I wrote to the DAV Headquarters requesting a complete run of 1976 Bicentennial tags from all states in exchange for a generous donation. About 3 months later, I received a package and letter from the DAV Director. He explained that 1975 was the last year for key tags but in lieu sent me 75 tags from various years from 1954-1975, with at least one from all 50 states.

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

I have probably over 1200 keychain plates and about 40 full size graphics and Bicentennial plates. I wish I had more Identotags, which were the 1941 predecessor of the DAV tags.

Do you display your plates?

I have a complete run of Illinois DAV's from 1941-1975 displayed in a case and am working on a similar display for Wisconsin.

What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?

I am only 23 cards short of completing a set of 1961 Topps baseball cards