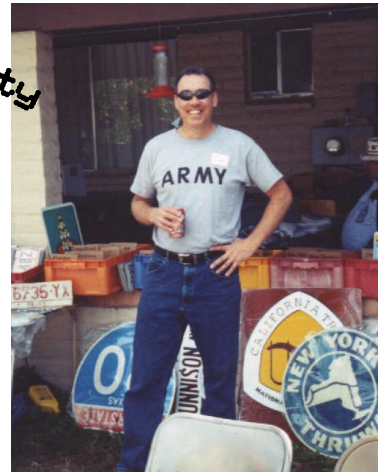


Arizona License Plate Society

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Name: John Desilets
Birth Year: 1956
ALPCA #: 9479
NILPS #: 650
Residence: Tucson, Arizona

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

I started collecting passenger plates in the summer of 1970. I have an aunt in Quebec who owns a farm there and had many Quebec plates on the wall inside her barn. I asked her if I could have them, and she said I could take all I wanted. The province changed plates every year back then, so I when I returned each summer, I received a new plate! I also bought the Jim Fox book on a history of license plates, and for the first time was able to view plates I had never seen before.

How did you hear about the Arizona Regional?

Via the internet in 2002. I looked up the ALPCA website and was very impressed.

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

I am currently collecting plates from the USA for my birth-year, 1956. I have 38 so far. I started working on this project in 2002 and am hoping to finish in 2006 for my 50th birthday. I also collect the latest Mexican graphic plates. I have half of that project completed. In addition, I have a Quebec run from my birth year to the present. I do collect other plates, but only those that I have a special interest in such as color, graphic or slogan.

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

Look under every rock. My best success is buying from other collectors.

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

I try to make at least 3 per year.

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

I have 225 passenger plates from the USA, Canada, Mexico, and Australia.

Do you display your plates?

Yes, in my garage. I won't buy a plate if I can't display it.

What other non-license plate hobbies do you have?

I breed small parrots and have 4 pet parrots. I also collect New York Worlds Fair memorabilia. I do a lot of cycling (about 3,000 miles per year) and an annual participant in the El Tour de Tucson in November and Tour de Cure in February.

We need articles for future newsletters... If you haven't yet been interviewed for this article, we want to know more about you! Contact Clark Wothe to get it set up. What are you waiting for?