

Art Winnie

Art Winnie (1880-1966) and his brother Bert ran a barber shop in downtown Traverse City, Michigan in the early 1900s. The shop bustled with fishermen. Both Art and Bert earned renown as great fishermen and designers of flies. Among Art's famous flies are the Michigan Hopper and the Michigan Caddis.



*Art Winnie 1938 Trout King
Photo from the Gary Miller Collection*

Art spent all of his spare time fishing on the Boardman or tying flies, either at his home or in his barber shop. It is said that he tied them by the thousands, filling orders from coast to coast and even into British Columbia, New Zealand and Scotland.

Art and several of his friends were members of the Traverse City Fly Club called "The Shack." It was located on the banks of the Boardman River several miles south of Traverse City. There they fished and worked with the Michigan Department of Conservation planting trout in the Boardman River. Art Winnie was Kalkaska's National Trout King in 1938.

~ Tom Deschaine ~