

George Griffith



George A. Griffith (1901-1998) was born a farmer from northwest Ohio. George was an investor and a hosiery salesman. A hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman his whole life. George was a famous conservationist, author, and fly tier.

Mr. Griffith purchased his cabin, the Barbless Hook, on the banks of the Au Sable River back in 1938. He was a member of the early Michigan Conservation Commission (today's DNR). His autobiography, "For the Love of Trout" was published in 1993. Back in 1939 was introduced to a fly pattern which he loved to tie and fish with. This fly now bears his name ... 'Griffith's Gnat.'

George Griffith is best known as one of the co-founders of Trout Unlimited. At a chance meeting with George Mason, at Burton's Landing, the two men struck up a conversation about the need for an organization, similar to Ducks Unlimited, that would help to preserve trout fishing for many generations to come. Additional discussions lead to a meeting on July 18, 1959 at the cabin of George Griffith, where these two men and 15 other like minded sportsmen finalized the formation of Trout Unlimited. George Griffith passed away on April 7, 1998.

Tom Deschaine
~Westland, Mi.~