

Gene Winger Biography

I was born and raised in Reno, Pennsylvania; a small “everyone knows everyone” town situated along the Allegheny River in Northwest Pennsylvania. Living within easy walking distance to prime hunting and fishing opportunities I now realize that it was the ideal place to grow up as a youth. After being discharge from the Armed forces, I worked at the Pennzoil oil refinery. Prior to the refinery closing in 2000, I accepted a position working from my home office as a software engineer for QSI Corporation - based out of New Jersey. I’m an active member of the Stone Arch Hunting Club and served as President for 22 years. I’m also a frequent contributor to the Northwest Pennsylvania Fishing Report produced by [Darl Black](#). I have fished all over Pennsylvania and Canada but my favorite fishery is still the Allegheny River.

Nearing retirement my fond memories of the river motivated me to purchase a jet boat, upgrade my fishing tackle and get back on the river. Reading about the success of Winco baits in the Northwest Pennsylvania Fishing Report I decided to give Al a call, introduce myself and order some of his products. My first order from Al was a few packages of [Solid Body River Darter](#) and [Laminated Wacky Worms](#). Surprisingly however it wasn’t the products that impressed me the most, it was Al’s passion for Smallmouth Bass fishing and his willingness to share his knowledge of Smallmouth Bass fishing that caught my attention. Only after using Winco baits for a few weeks, did I fully appreciated the quality and craftsmanship that Al builds into his soft plastics baits and jigs. Combined with years of experience and prototyping various bait designs, Al has come up with a winning combination of top quality products that covers every season and water condition.

Averaging over 100 days a year on the Allegheny River I have the opportunity to meet and talk to a lot of people. As a Winco Pro-Staffer, I want share with others my knowledge of Smallmouth Bass fishing and the use of the high quality plastic baits and jigs produced by Al Winco. I will continue to educate others in the importance of ‘Catch and Release’ practices and promote the future of the sport by getting our youth involved in fishing and other outdoor activities.

