

Gordon & Dan go fishing

By Gordon Woodworth
 Chronicle News Editor

After hearing reports of excellent fishing for lake trout and landlocked salmon on Lake George, I had to see for myself.

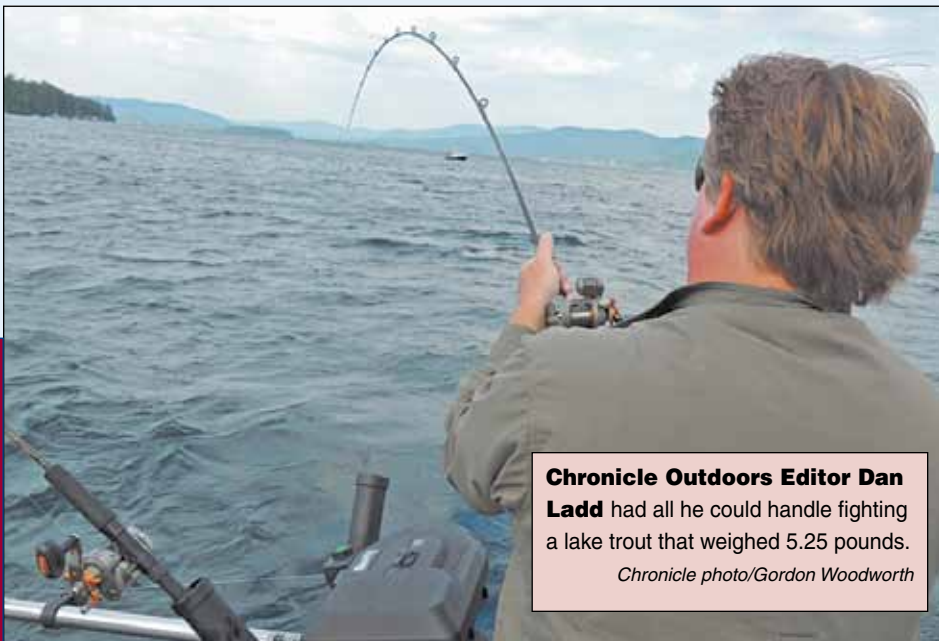
I called Jeff Johnson, aka JJ, of Rod Bender Charters (www.captjj.com), and along with *Chronicle* outdoors writer Dan Ladd and Schenectady *Gazette* writer Ed Noonan, we hit the water on a muggy, overcast day in late June to try our luck.

In three hours, we caught nine fish, including three keepers, all before 9 a.m.

Dan caught a 23.5-inch, 6-pound salmon and a 24.3-inch, 5.25-pound lake trout, and Ed caught a 24-inch, 5.5-pound salmon. I landed a couple of smaller fish, including a small-mouth bass, but I still took home some nice salmon filets.

Charter fishing on Lake George is sensory overload. We were fishing off of Pilot Knob,

On Lake George: 3 keepers, including 2 nice salmon



Chronicle Outdoors Editor Dan Ladd had all he could handle fighting a lake trout that weighed 5.25 pounds.
Chronicle photo/Gordon Woodworth

in view of Dome Island and the Sagamore, soaking in the warm breezes and views of the mist rising off the mountains.

Boat traffic was limited (we pushed off from the dock at Capri Village at 7 a.m.) as we made our way east.

JJ has been a full-time guide on Lake George for 19 years. He told us the salmon fishing is as good as he's ever seen it on Lake George. A day earlier, one of his clients boated a 27-inch torpedo that tipped the scales at 10.5

pounds. JJ said, "It's the biggest salmon I've ever seen caught up here."

We started trolling, using multi-colored spoons on six-pound test and Fish307 light downriggers. We were more shallow than normal — 30 to 50 feet deep — because it was cloudy, JJ said.

"With salmon, the key is figuring out the colors," he said.

JJ's got that down. At one point we had caught five fish on

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Megan Guarnier to the Olympics
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Eagle Flyer zipline

By Cathy DeDe

Chronicle Managing Editor

The Eagle Flyer Zipline has opened at Wild West Ranch in Lake George, and about 70 people rode it each day Monday and Tuesday, says Jamie Johnson of Adirondack Extreme.

The ride runs three quarters of a mile and has a 1,000-foot drop from the top of French Mountain to the Wild West park on U.S. Route 9.

It runs as much as 125 feet above treeline and maxes out at

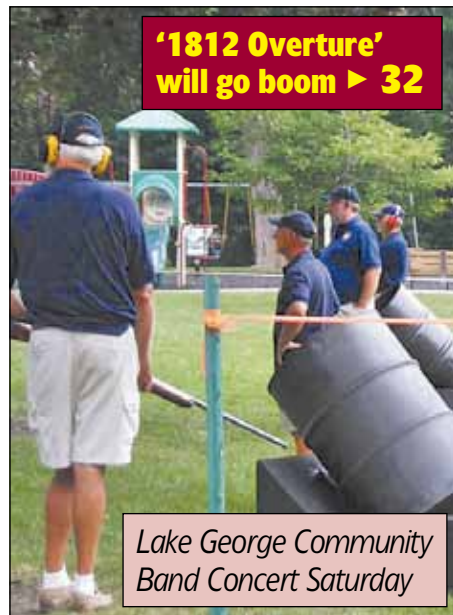
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125-foot height, 1,000-foot drop, 55 mph top speed, \$45 price



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