

We usually take a Presidential or an Executive houseboat, depending on the size of our group. This particular year, we had a few more friends, so we went all out - the Silverthorn Queen II with a fireplace, hot tub, state rooms, TV, etc, etc. It was fabulous! We had one good day of fishing, but then the weather got nasty. We tied things down real good, and we enjoyed an evening in wonderful luxury and comfort as the rain came down in buckets! It was a very cozy and restful night, and the next morning brought beautiful sunshine but a surprise as well. Our aluminum fishing boat, which was tied up to the houseboat, was missing. There were cushions floating on the lake, but the boat was nowhere in sight. Actually it was only 20 feet away - underwater! The only visible sign was the bowline from the houseboat going straight down into the lake. It seems one of my crew parked the fishing boat under the houseboat downspout! After some effort on the part of everyone, we managed to get the boat righted and emptied of water. My friend had a small outboard that he was convinced was ruined. He took off the cowling and removed the spark plugs (with some effort I might add). When I saw the spark plugs, I couldn't believe how burnt and in such poor condition these plugs were. I asked my friend when they were changed last, and he couldn't remember. What I remember is that he always had a hard time starting this motor. I had a couple of used (spare) plugs for my motor on hand, so I suggested he use them and give his motor a try. It started on the second pull, and has been running great ever since!

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