

The Turnbull Family at Lake Louisa

During the winter months of 1956 when **Brian Sutton** approached his friends at Pickwick's store on Earnscliffe Ave in Montreal's Notre Dame de Grace, about renting a cottage. Little did he know the impact his suggestion would have on his friends. Discussions that began in front of the store and continued over coffee at the Cote St Luc BBQ, culminated in the renting of a cottage at Lake Louisa for the summer of 1956. Among the group of young men renting that house was **Brian Turnbull** who was just graduating from High School. **Richard Lauzon**, another of the group would later meet and marry **Monique Côté** at the lake. The house they rented on Seale Road was the start of an adventure for **Brian Turnbull** that now has three generations of Turnbull's living at Lake Louisa.







The Boys first rented the large blue cottage at the store end of the lake. The following year they rented the adjoining log cabin owned by **Mozart Desforges**. They became active in the Country Club which at that time had dances most Saturday nights. The "Lads from the Pad" they called themselves, soon were well known around the lake. Unfortunately, after finishing up providing the music at the Club under the leadership of **David Field**, they gathered up their equipment and continued to party at the cabin into the wee hours of the morning. These parties attended by their friends included **Ian and Roy Nelson, Tom Heslop, Michael Sarazin, Gene Lewis, Monique Côté, Marge Nelson**, and many others of that age group. They got along well with their neighbours but when trying to rent for the fourth year their landlord said he was asked by a group of residents from the lake not to rent to the boys. It seems that music travels over water very well and the strains of Bill Haley's Rock Around the Clock at 4 a.m. did not bode well with some.

With the help of **Dr. Côté**, Brian and his friends were able to rent the boathouse at the end of Montgomery's Bay from **Omer Legault** of Brownsburg. This worked well for several years but as the group of boys dwindled Brian found it advantageous to buy the boathouse. Fortunately, the neighbours got along well with the boys resulting in enduring friendships with the **Louis Côté** family specifically **Louise and Claude Préfontaine** and **Yolande Tweedie**, and the **Dr. Côté** family, specifically **Monique and Richard Lauzon**.

Brian married **Gail Elizabeth McCallum** in April 1966. They together with **Tony**, then in 1967 with **Jim** and then **Peter** in 1971, followed by **Monica** in 1973, made the boathouse central to their family's leisure hours. Over the years the boathouse underwent many changes as the family's needs changed. In the fall of 1971 they moved the boathouse on land and commenced a series of renovations that would eventually transform it into the home occupied for some time by **Jim Turnbull** and family (**Carson and Chase**). **Peter** and his wife **Maija** then living Fairfax Virginia. Not to be out done, in the spring of 2005 they purchased Island 43 and the cottage at 1 Laurin Point for their continuing stake in Lake Louisa.

Brian retired in 1995 after 37 years with Nortel and built a new home on the lot beside the cottage that keeps them at the lake most of the year.

Brian and Gail in 2018 decided because of advancing age and health they could no longer stay at Lac Louisa for extended periods of time. They then negotiated with Peter and Maija, now living in Florida to sell their cottage on Laurin Pointe and take possession of the cottage on Moseley Road. With funds from this transaction, they purchased a condominium in Ottawa at 1195 Richmond Road where they planned to live for the remainder of their lives. The lake will always be central to their lives.

			
Boathouse	24 Moseley	20 Moseley	Island 43