

**JAMES R. AND LYDA (TURNER) HOLLOWAY**



Lyda and James Holloway Family

**Seated:** James, Leona, Mabel, Lyda.

**Standing:** Dorothy, Doris, Leo.

Lyda Turner was born In 1879 in the stone house (now owned by Edgar Boeing) one mile west of Richland Center on Highway 14. She was the fifth of eleven children born to Robert and Catherine Clair Turner. It is believed that Lyda's ancestors changed their name from Hans to Turner when they left England. When Lyda was eight, her family moved to Fiddler's Green. Lyda taught in various schools in the county including Fiddler's Green in 1898. She used to tell the story about when she got homesick while teaching at West Lima, and she walked all the way home to be with her family that

weekend. Lyda married James R. Holloway in 1901 and moved to a 120 acre farm next door to her parents in Fiddler's Green. It is believed that the Holloways of Richland County are descendants of Dr. John Holloway who left England in about 1634 to settle in Virginia on 1880 acres. John's wife Elizabeth came from London on the ship "Safety" in 1635. Several generations later Samuel Holloway came to Monroe, Wisconsin. His first wife died at Monroe in 1846 having borne ten children. Samuel remarried Abigail Powell Stewart and had one son James Bird Holloway. The family then moved to the Rockbridge area. Samuel was killed by a falling tree and is buried in an unmarked grave on a hillside near Woodstock. James R. was the son of James Bird and Margaret Beaty Holloway. Lyda and James R. had the following children: twins Doris Nevel (1902-1933) and Dorothy (1902-1992), Leo (1906-1957), Leona Cairns (1914-2005), Mabel Gillingham (1917-3007). Besides raising her own children, Lyda helped to raise Harry Moore, Jay Schoonover, Willard Holloway, and Robert Nevel. Besides farming, James R. also raised and broke teams of horses for extra income. He had a Case steam engine along with a Case thrashing machine and did custom work for others. His grandson Richard Cairns is now the Case dealer in the Richland area. James died in 1942. Around 1944, Mabel (Lyda's daughter) and her children Loretta and Junior Gillingham joined households with Lyda. The household also included Dorothy (another daughter) and Robert Nevel (a grandson). At sixty-five when most people are retiring, Lyda was ready to help raise two more children. The family lived at

Fiddler's Green for about four years and then moved to Bowen's Mill. Lyda's family attended church at Buck Creek. In Lyda's younger days, however, she attended church at Bowen's Mill. Her parents are buried in the cemetery there. Lyda passed away in 1963 and was buried on the family plot in Richland Center.

*Submitted by Loretta McCarthy and Leona Cairns*

***Note: Added death year for those that passed since 1986. dbt***