



ARLIE FROST

Photo added by Deborah Krauss

Arlie Frost

BIRTH	30 Oct 1867 Boonville, Cooper County, Missouri, USA
DEATH	27 Oct 1947 (aged 79) Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin, USA
BURIAL	Greenwood Cemetery Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin, USA
MEMORIAL ID	79587638 · View Source

Source:

"Monroe Evening Times", front page
Monroe, Green County, Wisconsin
Monday, October 27, 1947

ARLIE FROST, GREAT MAN OF RACING, DIES

Arlie Frost, Monroe's great man of harness racing, is dead.

The heart that beat fastest when he was driving a straining pacer down the home stretch , tight to the rail, crossed the finish line at 1 a.m. today in St. Clare Hospital.

Death came in his 65th year as driver and trainer. He was 79. He drove his first race at 14.

Four weeks ago he was in a sulky for the last time. After jogging one of his string at Aurora Downs, Ill., he came home "to rest."

Friends visited him in the hospital as often as he could have visitors. They were always fearful that the frail little man wouldn't last the distance. He had been ailing for years. Yet he was always up there, up front.

He's in the books, with Peter McKinney, in 1929 the world's record holder for the 4-year-old pacer. Time: 2:09- 3/4, at Lexington. With Calumet Delco, winner of 10 straight he set



THE GREAT PACE, McKinnis—World champion four-year-old in 1928. Peter McKinnis, 2016, declared as the fastest horse to be bred, raised and developed in Wisconsin, is shown with Arlie Frost at the right. Peter McKinnis, owned by E. H. Luchsinger, died in August, 1931, in Indiana and is buried on the Cold Springs farm in the first horse cemetery in Wisconsin.

Deborah Krauss



Deborah Krauss

the then world record of 2:04. With Knight of Strathmore, who in 1910 set a world record of 2:06-1/4 for 4-year-olds.

HIS LAST RACE

In 1942 he climbed into the sulky back of Jimmy Mc, a young pacer he'd never driven. He came in with a new state record for two-year-old pacers, 2:08-3/4. The grandstand crowd at the Green County Fairground gave him an ovation.

Then he quit. Failing eyesight forced him to give up race driving.

Quit? "He never quit!" said Willard Schuetze, one of Arlie's co-directors on the fair association. Arlie was Superintendent of Speed for the Green County Fair more than a quarter century.

The wonder was that he didn't quit. Not in 1942 but in 1900. Early in the century he was forced to go to Arizona in the hope he'd recover from tuberculosis. There, at Phoenix, he met another sufferer, F.B. Luchsinger of Monroe. [Memorial # 117442007]

It was Luchsinger who bought the Missouri-born Frost to Monroe. Monroe now claims him as its own. He was born October 30, 1867, at Booneville, Mo., the son of Alexander and Lucinda Post Frost. His father was a racing man and showman.

In Monroe he picked up asthma and most of the time he was racing on the strength of one lung. The grandstand crowds who nearly perished from excitement watching him brush home a winner probably never knew that.

STORY OF MR. BLACK

One way to tell the story of Arlie Frost is in terms of Mr. Black. Mr. Black was a dog, simply a small, black animal, an unprepossessing dog, really. But Arlie centered attention

on him, and whenever the dog was about - and Mr. Black saw to that! - the small, black animal became an animated personality. Some observers thought it was Arlie Frost's own personality, coming out in Mr. Black.

Great on the track and respected by the drivers, he also was a favorite in the shack they called the Superintendent of Speed's "office".

There the tough-hided racing drivers and the wealthy men who owned whole stables of horses would gather around to hear Arlie tell of the earlier days.

Never bombastic, he told his stories in a thin voice, more out of urging than from a desire to talk.

He recalled having to carry 50 pounds of lead to make up the required 150 pounds' minimum weight for drivers.

WORE HIM DOWN

He found that carrying the weight to the scales before each race wore him down, he hired a strapping Negro boy for the job. Once, after four hard heats, Arlie was too tired to report for weighing-in. The boy puzzled a moment and then, thrusting the lead under one arm, he picked up Arlie with his free hand and deposited both on the scales.

Arlie said the boy went about his work like a "polite but eager bull elephant."

How he learned that bull elephants were polite and eager remained a mystery, for Arlie never had much schooling. Not that it wasn't offered - even insisted upon - by his parents, but Arlie rejected it. His father gave in and bought him a trotter. That started it.

In the next 65 years - ended only now - he trained and drove horses throughout the United States.

Peter McKinney [Memorial# 176987122], owned by F.B.

Luchsinger, was perhaps his best pacer, but he had a great feeling for George Bleiler's Knight of Strathmore, and for many others.

Acquaintances used to ask Arlie to name his favorite, and there was something meaningful in his answer: Young Hal. That was 40 years ago, but Young Hal, a cripple, Arlie said, was the gamest horse he ever had.

NEVER MARRIED

Arlie never married. One of latest girlfriends was a sweet filly, Judy Ann, that he owned with Louis R. Wolleson. He also was co-owner of horses with Willard R. Schuetze and Ben Zigler at various times.

In 1942, an Arlie Frost day was featured at the county fair and he was presented with a plaque, inscribed "Sportsman, gentleman and race driver. A man who loves horses and fair play. A true inspiration to the horse world." It was then Arlie drove his record – and last- race.

At the end of this year's Wisconsin season Arlie went to California with his great friend, Guy Crippin. Naturally they took a string of horses along. A few weeks ago he went to Aurora Downs where he served as official timer. He also jogged horses a bit and then decided on a rest.

Two brothers survive, Louis, Springfield, Ill., and Dr. Ward Frost, Bonneville; two nephews, G.A. Frost, Springfield, and Roy Frost, Independence, Mo., and one niece, Mrs. Dorothy Nelms, Springfield, Mo.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 Wednesday in the Stuessy funeral home, with Rev. E.C. McCollow of St. Victor's Church officiating. Mr. Frost will be buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

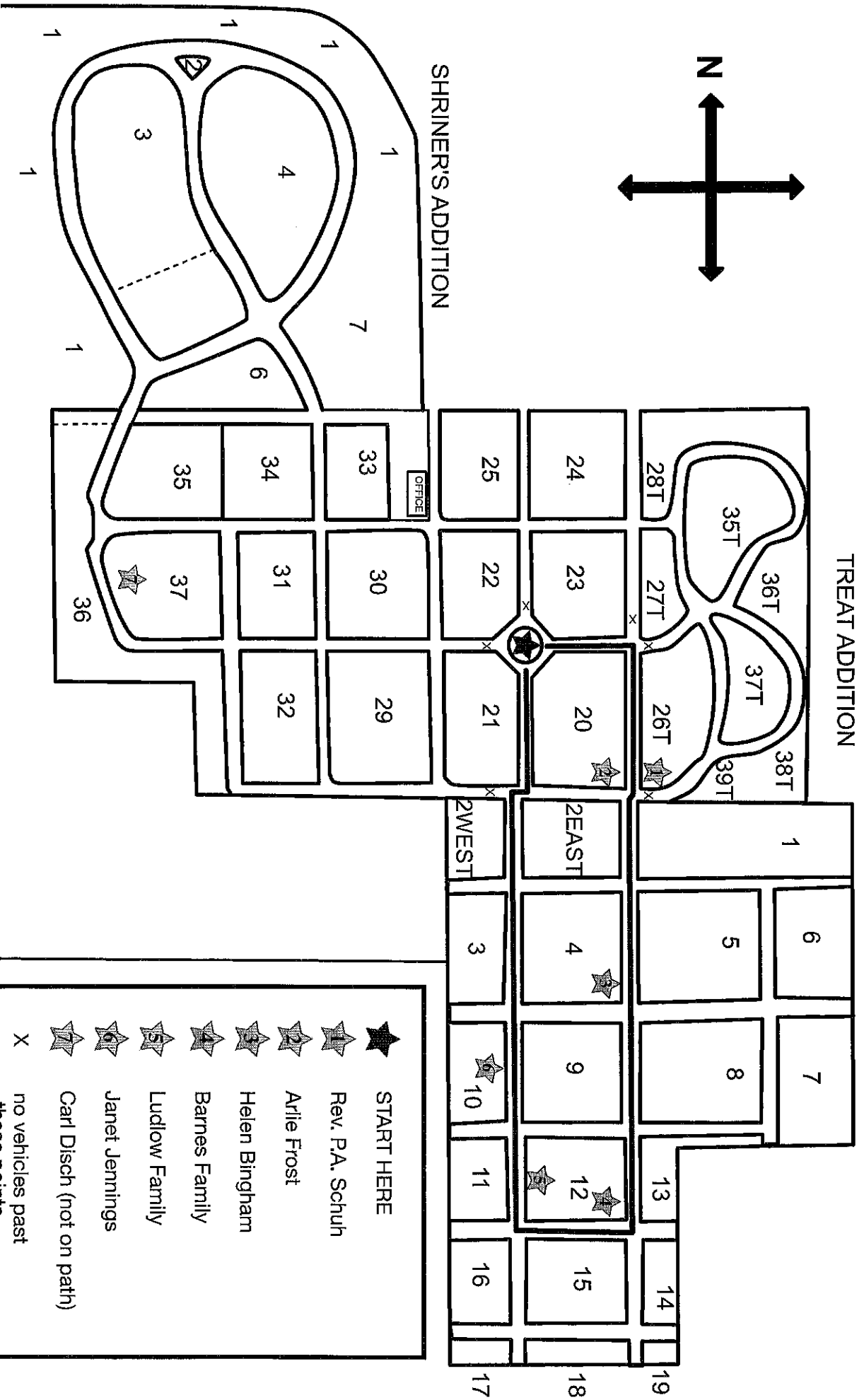
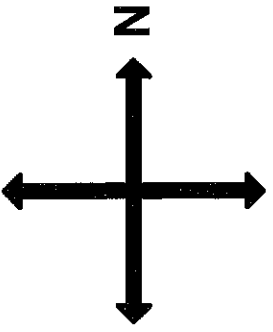
[courtesy of Deborah Krauss]

1947
**Select Superintendents
Of Green County Fair**

Superintendents of the Green county fair, July 31-Aug. 3, have been announced by President Louis R. Wolleson, who is also assuming the duties of superintendent of speed, a position held for more years by Arlie Frost, veteran horseman now retired.

Other superintendents are: Theodore Bayrhofer, cattle; Fred T. Burgy, horses; Conrad Stauffacher, swine; R. H. Schoonover, concessions; R. W. Prien, police and personnel; and Ernest W. Hayes, horse show. *Apr. 19*

GREENWOOD CEMETERY MONROE, WISCONSIN



HISTORY OF GREENWOOD CEMETERY

By:

Lillian DeNure and Debra Bailey Trail

Nov. 2002

The first village cemetery was platted in 1844 on West Payne St. (now 9th Street) in Monroe. This site was originally the Green County Teacher's College and is currently the Monroe Senior Center Building.

The first grounds were donated to Green County and consisted of Lot #12 in Russell's Donation. In late 1859, the Village purchased new, larger grounds and the deceased were removed to that location.

On July 27, 1920 the Greenwood Cemetery Association of Green County was formed. All the property and effects of Greenwood Cemetery as owned by the city of Monroe was turned over to the Association on Dec. 29, 1920, including the \$1200.00 in the city treasurer's office for the cemetery fund.

The first trustees were: N.E. McLaughlin, J.D. Dunwiddie, Miss M. Alice Treat, B.G. Treat, E.H. Gloege, W.F. Trukenbold, Mrs. C.S. Dodge, Louis Kohli, and Charles E. Shriner.

The first officers were: Charles E. Shriner, president; J.D. Dunwiddie, vice-president; B.G. Treat, secretary; and W.F. Trukenbrod, treasurer.

During the fall of 1920 the Treat lot was platted and available for sale on Dec. 29, 1920. And on April 19, 1922 the Association purchased 6 (out of 11 $\frac{2}{3}$ acres) from Charles E. Shriner for \$800 per acre with option to purchase the rest in the future for no more than \$800 per acre. These two new sections were named the Treat and Shriner additions.

The Cemetery's first superintendent was Samuel Bowden in 1878 along with his son-in-law, William Drake, as asst. sexton. In 1884 Mr. Drake became the Chief Sexton and remained as such for almost 50 years. It is estimated he dug at least 5000 graves in his time. (He also did the sexton work for The Calvary and Old Catholic Cemeteries.) Mr. Drake was interred in Greenwood Cemetery when he passed away on Sept. 14, 1936.

The next sexton/superintendent was Earl Summerli who was hired on Sept. 21, 1922. In 1928, Earl's son, Herbert T. Summerli was appointed sexton and held the position until 1978 when the current Superintendent/Secretary-Treasure, Greg Olson was appointed.

Bibliography:

1. "The History of Green County, Wisconsin" published by Union Publishing Co.; Springfield, IL., 1884.
2. "Form Cemetery Association", the *Monroe Sentinel*; July 28, 1920.
3. "William Drake, 90 years in City, Dies" the *Monroe Sentinel*; Sept. 14, 1936.
4. Green County Cemetery Association notes found at the cemetery.