

## Kim M. Lyttle & Khan's Magic Piper



### 2016 AERC Decade Team



Photo © Allison Theurer, [atheurer6802@yahoo.com](mailto:atheurer6802@yahoo.com)

**Rider's name:** Kim M. Lyttle

**Horse's name:** Khan's Magic Piper

**Year of First Endurance Ride (first year in the decade):** 2007

**Region:** Northeast

**Current rider lifetime mileage?**

Endurance: 1880

Limited Distance: 520

**Tell us about your horse. When/how did you come to get him/her?** I had retired my Arabian, and some good friends knew that I was looking for a good horse. They invited me to come ride him, to see if we might be a good fit. We were!

**What is your horse's breeding?** Registered Appaloosa. ¼ Arabian. Navarre Khan / RB Aabra Khadabra

**Sex:** Gelding

**DOB:** 7/1/2001

**Horse height:** 15 hands

**Approximate weight:** 1,000 pounds

**Color:** Bay Roan Appaloosa

**Why did you decide to purchase this horse?** Love at first sight/first ride, and his disposition and build.

**Did you do endurance with any other horses before this horse?** Yes, LD's (and ECTRA)

**How many different horses have you ridden in this sport?** 5, including LD's.

**Do you participate in any other horse sports or activities?** Yes, ECTRA

**How many years have you been involved with endurance?** 12 years. **With horses in general?** 59 years.

**What got you interested in endurance riding?** I found out about the sport when I was given my first Arabian mare.

**What was it that kept you interested?** The enjoyment of time spent with my horse on beautiful/challenging trails. Also, all of the friends that I have met and learned from in this sport.

**How old was your horse when first started in endurance?** LD- 5 Endurance- 6

**How many rides did you do your first three ride seasons?** 19

**What mileage distance did you start with? (25, 50, etc.)** 25

**How long until you top tenned or raced (if you did)?** 4<sup>th</sup> place in our 2<sup>nd</sup> LD in our first season. 6<sup>th</sup> place (50 miles) in our 3<sup>rd</sup> season. We were not racing either time. We race approximately once every 2 years, when we ride the Appaloosa National Endurance Championship ride, if it is within a day's driving distance. These rides are combined with an Open Endurance ride.

**How much time off do you give between ride seasons?** 2-3 months

**If you have done 100s, how much time off do you give after doing one?** One month

**If you have done multadays, how much time off do you give after doing one?** 3 weeks

**Do you use any special type of tack or shoeing with your horse?** Aluminum shoes with pads. Hackamore. Free n Easy endurance saddle.

**What kind of problems have you overcome with your horse?** Him being pushy when I was handling him from the ground.

**Describe the best ride you ever had on your horse.** Our second 100 mile ride. I was so proud of Magic.

**What was your most humbling experience?** Earning our Decade Team Award in consecutive years.

**What lessons have you learned along the way that you feel are the most important?** Ride your own ride. Listen to your horse.

**What advice would you give to new riders?** Find someone who will show you the ropes. Ask questions. Learn what works for you and your horses. Horses are all different, just like people. Your horse will probably be healthier and happier longer, if you do less racing, and give him more rest. You do not have to have an Arabian to do this sport.

**Looking back, what do you feel you did right?** I didn't override my horse. Earning Top Ten placings was not important to me. I gave my horse plenty of rest between rides.

**What would you do differently?** Be nicer to my husband (he often crews for me).

**What was your highest goal for your horse, and did you achieve it?** It was to earn the Decade Team Award in consecutive years. Yes, we did!

**Describe your horse's personality?** How is it like or unlike yours? He is very mellow, and takes care of himself, as well as me, on rides. He is also very social. I am quieter (most of the time) and more prone to worry.

**What kinds of rides do you enjoy the most (50s, 100s, multadays, etc.)?** 50's

**In what ways has endurance riding made a positive influence in your life?** Having a happy and successful partnership with my horses is very rewarding. I love being able to ride in the great outdoors. Long distance riding is my therapy. As long as my horses are in good physical and mental shape after the ride, I am happy.

**Is there anything special about your nutrition program you attribute to your success?** I bring more for Magic to choose from at a ride than at home. I bring some alfalfa hay in addition to soft grass hay, and I mix him slurries with beet pulp and some other grains.

**Are there any major changes you've made to your nutrition program (i.e., changed from one hay to another, added something special) that you feel made a noticeable improvement or solved a problem?** My electrolyte protocol (gut sounds).

**What kind of supplements (if any) do you use?** Chlorella Spirulina powder

**Do you give any kind of joint products?** Legacy Pellets

**Describe your electrolyte protocol.** Enduramax mixed with Magnalax and water. The night before, the morning of, and once at every hold. I occasionally electrolyte Magic between holds if the mileage is long, the weather is very hot/humid, etc. Each horse is different in their electrolyte requirements.

**How do you choose which rides to attend?** By date and location.

**Do you go to many rides outside of your region?** Usually about one a year. (Southeast)

**Name three people involved in the sport of endurance that you look up to, and why.**

Jeanne Waldron. She was the first person to encourage me to try Endurance riding. She is a legend in this sport, as well as being our veterinarian.

Julie Suhr. Her first book was very encouraging to me, and she is also a legend in this sport.

John Parke. I admire his incredible success and relationship with Remington.

**Did you have a mentor or first trail partner? Tell us about him/her/them.** Robby Vizard was my first mentor and trail partner. She always put her horse first, and we had so much fun riding together.

**In choosing your next horse, what would you look for?** A horse from a friend I trust, already trained (I already have her - she is an Arabian). Our horses have always come to us trained, by way of friends. I compete with my Appaloosa and my Arabian, and my husband competes with his Morgan mare.