



How many of you remember the 1970 Dustin Hoffman hit LITTLE BIG MAN? The first time I saw Aaron Mowrer's Arazi, that is was immediately came to mind. A little horse with the biggest of hearts.

Arazi was the son of Aaron's great mare Sheba. He was born in 1992 and did his first 50 miler in 1998. Since then, he has amassed 2470 AERC endurance miles, 425 AERC LD miles and a total of 3722.5 UMECRA miles. He has started AND completed four 100's and won six BCs.

My favorite year in memory was Sara Mowrer's last year as a junior. I rode along with the great quartet all year, father and daughter riding (father on Arazi and daughter on Arazi's Thunder Rose). At every ride we attended together we were first heavyweight, first lightweight and first junior.

Arazi holds a very special honor in UMECRA. He is one of only a few horses to successfully compete in Endurance (including 100s, LD, Comp, AND Drive. He doesn't just compete in harness; he pulls the buggy in Olney's White Squirrel Saddle Club Tractor Show every year.

In all his years of competition, Arazi has had only one rider, the man he bonds with and I believe loves. The only exception was one LD that Josh was in the saddle. However, that is in competition.

Every Tuesday from June through September, Arazi donates his time to an event called "Gaitway to Motion." He, along with several of the Mowrer's "too crazy to do service work" Arabs, carry kids who are physically, mentally, or emotionally challenged. For an hour a week, these kids get to experience a better world atop a horse.

In 2008, Arazi won his first Decade Award. Since then, he has set is stubborn little self on winning the Double Decade. He has a few more years to go to see that come true. But---for those of you who have seen LITTLE BIG MAN, you probably remember that Hoffman's character was the only white man to survive the Battle of the Little Big Horn, and he lived to be 132 years old. Anything is possible if your heart is big enough

Submitted by Lori Windows