



≈ PHOTO ESSAY ≈

Morgan Bellies & Babies

← SPRING 2011 FOALS →

“A new baby is like the beginning of all things, hope, a dream of possibilities.” (Eda La Shan)

What began as a quest to shoot a few foal pictures escalated in to an 8,800 mile journey that spanned the United States.

After our winter “Morgans in the Snow” photo-essay, Dave and I spent a lot of time marveling at how much fun we had. We were anxious to embark upon a new assignment, and “Morgan Bellies and Babies” came about as the snow was finally starting to melt. We knew a few Morgan friends that had babies on the way, and let’s face it—how incredibly inspiring and fun are babies after a long, dreary winter?

We started out this fabulous assignment in the middle of a freezing cold New-England weather at Carol Wessons in Western Massachusetts to see her new colt—a precious little bundle of bay cuteness. I, of course, spent most of my time getting adorable kisses from him. He was so wonderfully friendly and curious that

it was hard for me to pick up my camera and step away from him to take pictures.

A couple weeks later, Mary Kuhn called Dave. Her beautiful and feisty mare Tina finally gave birth to an extremely long-legged filly. Dave was five minutes away from her and got to meet the filly about ten minutes

after she was born. He lay next to her on the straw and captured the first moments of life. The filly had legs that went on for days and even laying down, kept lifting them up to look at them as if she was wondering what they were for. This was one of the most precious images we captured in this whole project.

Soon after Mary’s, we had two beauties to shoot at Mike Carpenter’s; one filly and one colt. It was a treat to watch the filly get to experience the outdoors for the first time—she was so excited as we watched her race around the entire paddock without fear. She sure made her mom nervous, but it was wondrous to experience

Photos by Dave & Andy

that thrill of discovery with her.

Misty Meadows came next down in Connecticut with Danielle Pfaue and Scott Niedlinger. It's such a picturesque farm and we got to spend the better part of the day there. This dark colored beauty was very feisty and looked so much like her mom. We even got to play with baby bunnies while we were there, and I got to ride a Fresian!

Bluefield Morgans was our next stop way up in Maine—what a treat it was to spend a few hours with Dave and Russ and their beautiful farm. They introduced us to “Bluefield Royal Wedding” (barn name: Kate) who again, got to experience the outside for the first time while we were there. She was so precious—we caught great pictures of her trying to figure out what her shadow was. We expected to be there for less than an hour to shoot the baby, and ended up hanging out with our wonderful hosts for just under four hours enjoying their Morgans, Scottish Highlander cows and five crazy West Highland Terriers. It was a fabulous day!

It's a boy! Richard Boulé's colt “Chance” was next as we road-tripped back up to Maine to Melanie Smalls, Pondview Morgan farm where his baby was born. Richard's pride and joy mare Jsa-Jsa, stunning beyond words, had an equally stunning colt. I spent over an hour just watching and shooting them in the indoor arena while Chance played and frolicked while momma kept a close eye. He was such a character and so expressive!!

So, sadly, the night before we were to leave for Colorado trip, Dave's appendix decided it wanted out and sent poor Dave into emergency surgery. All went well with the surgery, but he was so sad he had to miss our adventure to the high plains. I arrived in Denver and drove from the airport to The River's Edge where I spent some time with Bob and Mary and their two pretty foals and one VERY pregnant expectant mom. Jay Kleiber met me there and we went to his home where the world-famous miracle foal Connor lives. I can honestly say that I had goosebumps going into his stall. His mom was gorgeous and all I could find to say about Connor was, “Wow!” You would never have known this little man was as close to death as he had been. He had so much presence and was so full of life that I was in awe. His mom Lucy is a saint and lets everyone fawn over her baby boy. Connor is breathtakingly beautiful with his bright chestnut coat and has such a wonderfully upright neck and “Look at me” personality. I felt truly honored to just be there to see him. Jay, Jeff and Julie took me up the mountains the day after shooting and we had a blast spending the day on a crazy adventure. What amazing, fabulous people!

That evening, I left for Laramie, Wyoming and Mears Morgans with the talented Mallory Mignot. I had not planned on even seeing Mallory that evening, but it worked out that I went over as soon as I drove into Laramie and got to spend some amazing time being introduced to all the horses, the dogs, the cats and I can say with confidence, I have never met anyone quite as open and fabulous as Mallory. This is a woman who adores her horses and loves what she does! The fading light was gorgeous and with the backdrop of 1,200 acres of the high plains with a winding river running through it and the mountains as a backdrop was one of the most inspiring places I have ever been. The bay colt was fabulous and had the most amazing perfect heart shape of lighter hair on his

nose—he was brave and curious and absolutely loved Mallory.

A couple weeks after getting home from Colorado and Wyoming, Julie Spaniel had me come and visit her beautiful Sprucewood Farm in northern Vermont. Her beautiful daughter Emily also helped out shooting this chestnut filly with a big blaze. This filly also loved both Julie and Emily as was evident by the heart-melting photos of them both with this baby.

On the way home from Sprucewood, I stopped in at Partridge Hill with Carol, Ashley and Greg Fleck to meet their beautiful Trebles Tangueray baby. I am not kidding when I say I am still not sure he isn't a kangaroo. I have never seen a baby that spent so much time on his hind legs! We were all laughing as we watched him bounce around with his front legs flailing in the field of buttercups. I also got to climb aboard Trebles Tangueray, which was a HUGE thrill!!

After a great morning at Partridge Hill, I rushed four hours home to grab Dave and catch an evening flight out of Boston to Peeper Ranch where we were welcomed with open arms by Dawn Fire and her amazing staff. Kenda Ben, the breeding manager there was intensely wonderful as she showed off all the babies like a proud, protective momma! There were three Morgan babies there—each more spectacular than the next—our favorite though was an exquisite Greycliff Tony baby they called “baynut.” There was a sign-up sheet on her door and we got to vote whether we thought she was chestnut or bay—you really could not tell! We didn't want to leave—it was truly like Disneyland for us! We laughed so much over two days and even got to take hilarious pictures of Kristen Tramposh's Basset Hound, Alabama Moonshine, while she was running. It was the most fun trip we have ever been on.

Roxanne Sardelli-Greenway was kind enough to let me come over at the crack of dawn on a Monday morning. She drove me all over the 85 acre farm to let me pick the spot I wanted to shoot. What a beautiful place with beautiful horses around every turn, even two minis and a Clydesdale! My lasting memory is her filly that was two weeks early. She was a little peanut of a filly that could already trot over level. She spent quite a bit of time running underneath her mom to stare at me. What she lacked in size, she sure made up for with energy and perfect good looks!

We wrapped up our last day of the assignment with Charlene McCarthy who has two gorgeous chestnut colts, both long-legged and fancy! Both babies were so nice but the youngest colt had the kind of presence and look that just made you stop and stare. It was sweet to see Charlene remembering this colt's dad, Realize, that had passed away last summer. It reminded me that a legacy can always bring joy and that babies are an amazing way to keep those horses we love and lost a part of our future.

As our last stop, I really took a moment as I was shooting to realize how lucky Dave and I were to have gotten to be in the presence of some outrageously beautiful mares and babies and their people that love them so dearly. So, 14 farms later, 8,859.63 miles traveled and over 1,300 pictures to weed through, Dave and I wrap this project in hopes you get to live vicariously through us and experience the fun, miraculous moments and amazing beauty that is the future of our breed. I hope you enjoy the ride, because we sure did!

Photo Essay ~ *Morgan Bellies & Babies*
-----> **EQUUS NOVUS, LLC**



SBS Sincerely (Westenfeld Musicmaster x SBS Putting On The Ritz) with her foal EQN Coup de Coeur (raf), aka "Tako" (by MEM Sambuca).

Morgan Bellies & Babies ≈ Photo Essay
WOODHILL FARM ← - - - - -



Quabbin Bell Cortina with her foal Cristalla
(by JDS Paladin Pazazz).

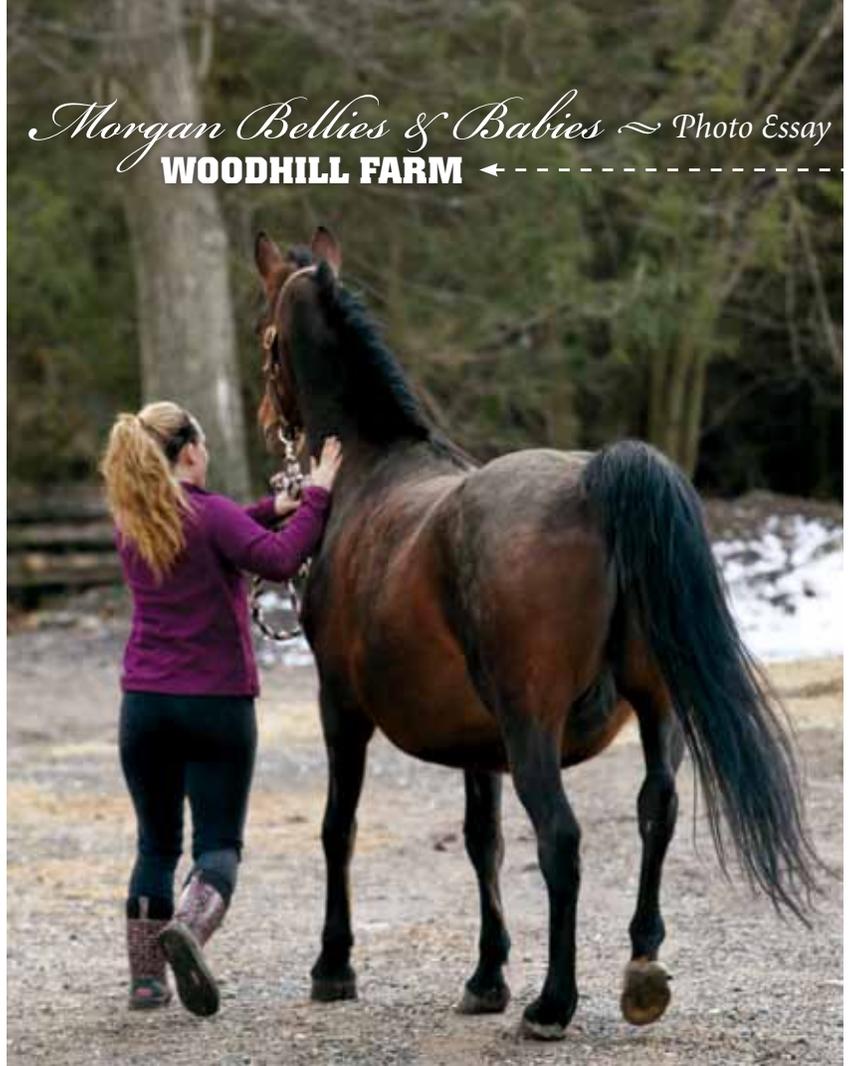


Photo Essay *~ Morgan Bellies & Babies*
----- > **MIKE CARPENTER STABLES**



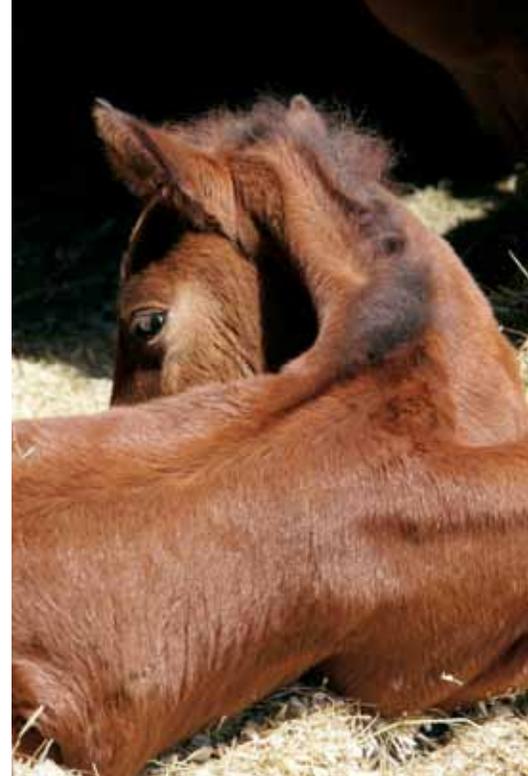
*Stardavari with her foal MCS Rock Star (raf)
(by MEM Bacardi).*

Morgan Bellies & Babies ~ Photo Essay
MISTY MEADOWS ← - - - - -



*Carlyle Mary Rose with her foal Scarlet Rose (raf)
(by MEM Turn Up The Heat).*

Photo Essay ~ *Morgan Bellies & Babies*
-----> **BLUEFIELDS MORGANS**



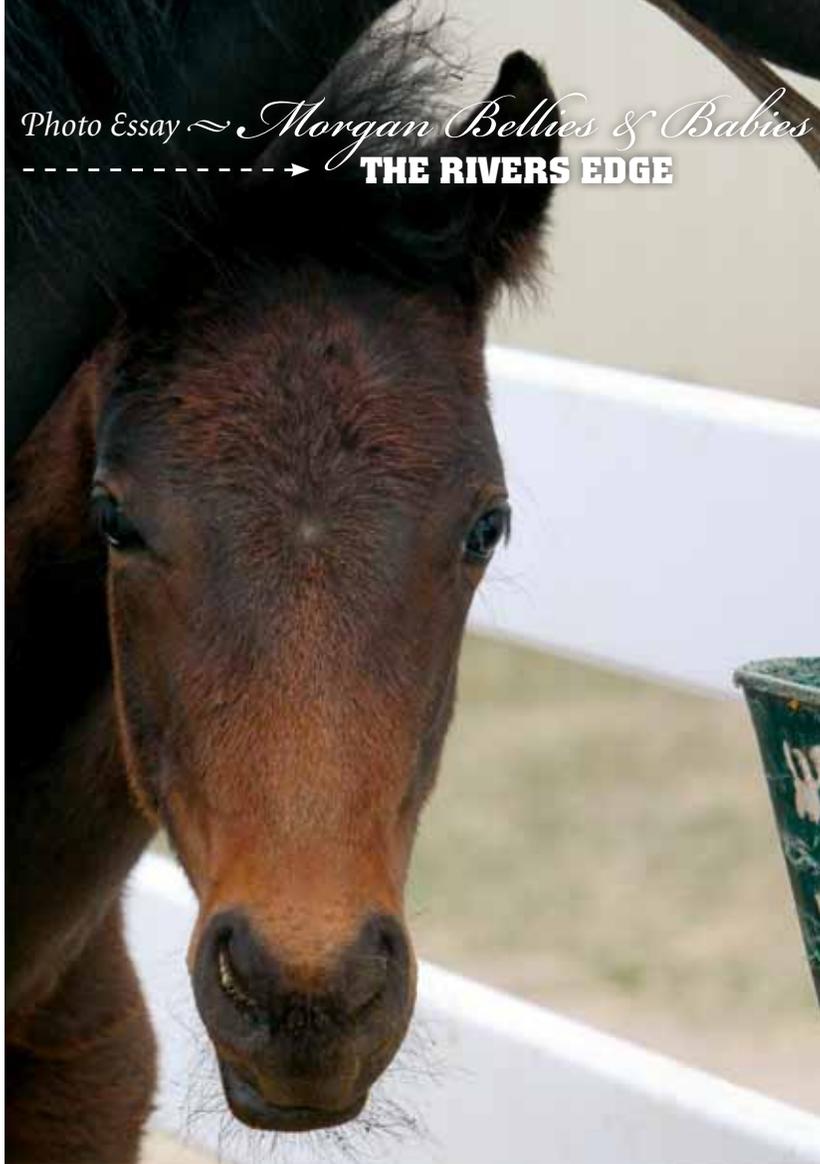
Century Oak Precocious with her foal Bluefields Royal Wedding (raf), aka "Kate" (by Bluefields Mystic).

Morgan Bellies & Babies ~ Photo Essay
RICHARD BOULÉ ~ TAYLOR RIVER ← - - -



(BKV Valiant Star x RRB Mad Love).

Photo Essay ~ *Morgan Bellies & Babies*
-----> **THE RIVERS EDGE**



Suwannee Sweet Dreams (Tedwin Topic x Carlyle Dream On) and foals (Mizrahi x Careless Love) (top left) and (Centerpiece x Star Lady Jane) (top right).

Morgan Bellies & Babies ~ Photo Essay
RIDGEWOOD FARM ← - - - - -



Dragonsmeade Kalahari with her foal RWF Iconic (raf), aka "Connor"
(by Dragonsmeade Icon).

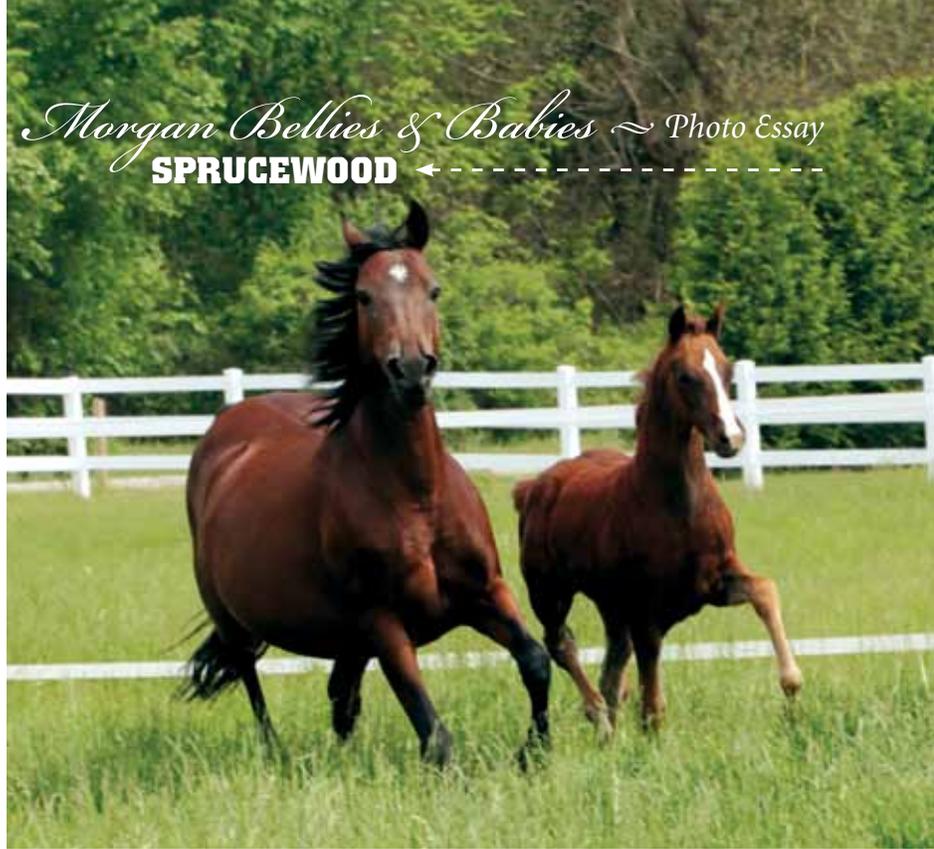
Photo Essay ~ *Morgan Bellies & Babies*
-----> **MEARS MORGANS**



HVK
Mystical
with her
foal LR Ami
Skywalker
(raf), aka
"Luke"
(by Ultras
Stardust).



Morgan Bellies & Babies ~ Photo Essay
SPRUCEWOOD ← - - - - -



Troutbrook GypsyRose with her foal Love Game (by Issues 'N Answers).

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-----> **PARTRIDGE HILL**



*Partridge Hill Pageant with her foal Partridge Hill Patron (raf)
(by Trebles Tanqueray).*

Morgan Bellies & Babies ~ Photo Essay
PEEPER RANCH ← - - - - -



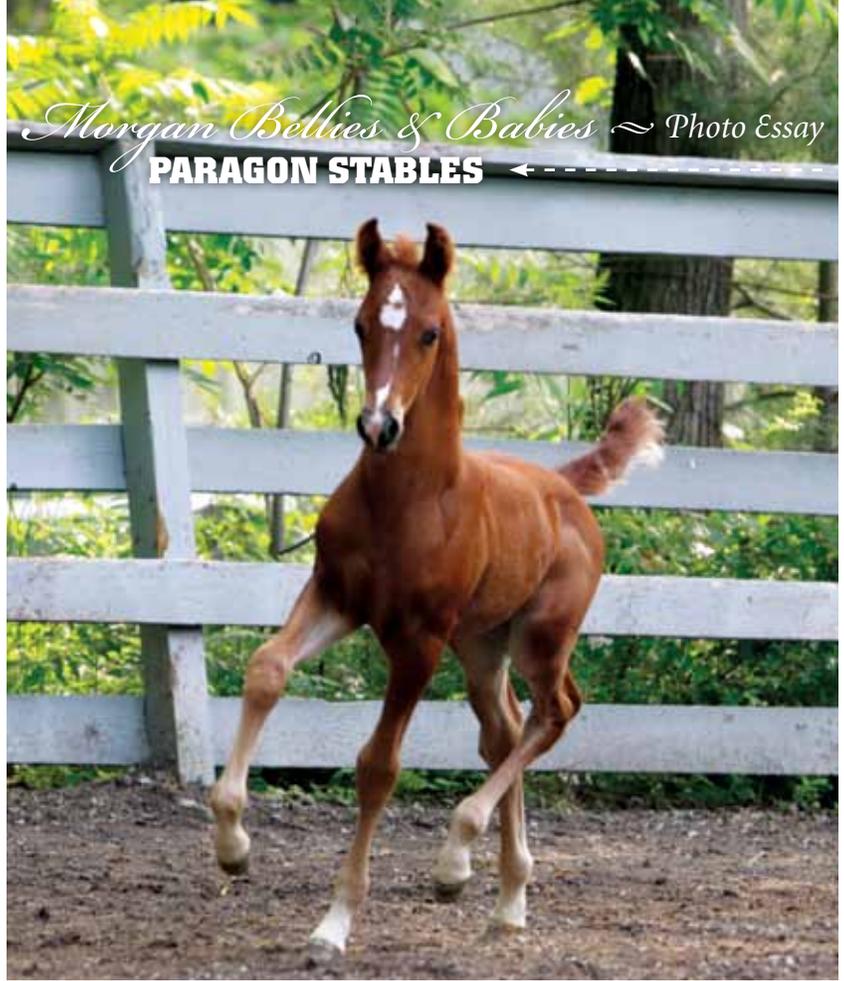
Top left: *Take The Crown* (raf) (CBMF Crown Prince x Treble's First Take). **Bottom left & directly right:** PPR Belly Dancer and her foal (by Supernova). **Far right, top to bottom:** *Popular* (raf) (Graycliff Tony x FEF Seductress).

Dave & Aud

Photo Essay ~ *Morgan Bellies & Babies*
-----> **SARDE MORGANS**



Top three: Sarde's Soirée with her foal "Trixie" (by KDS Star Wars). **Bottom two:** Sarde's Beyond Definition (raf) (SYP High Definition x Stonecroft Bewitched).



Morgan Bellies & Babies ~ Photo Essay
PARAGON STABLES ← - - - - -

Middle right: (*Realize x Mendon Make Believe*).
Remaining photos: *Slip Into Silk* with her foal
(by *Realize*).

