



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: AHA  
303.696.4500

## Arabian Horse Association Welcomes New Managing Editor

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**(26-May-17) – AURORA, COLO.** – The [Arabian Horse Association](#) (AHA) is excited to announce the new, incoming Managing Editor for [Arabian Horse Life](#) magazine – Stephanie J. Ruff. Ruff will be managing the editorial content for the magazine. The current Managing Editor, Susan Bavaria, is retiring after 26 years of being with AHA.

Bavaria has been a longtime staff member and will be retiring at the end of May. She began working for IAHA in 1988 as publications manager and became director of communications after the merger with the Arabian Horse Registry in 2003. After an “early retirement” in 2007, she came back to AHA to serve as editor. During her tenure, Bavaria won two AHSA (now US Equestrian) Broadcast Media Awards and one International Association of Business Communicators awards for television shows produced for Prime Sports Network (now ESPN) about Youth Nationals, U.S. Nationals and the National Endurance Ride plus numerous American Horse Publications awards. She is published in various literary reviews and will continue writing projects plus pursue outdoor activities at her home in Salida, Colo.

Ruff has been devoted to horses ever since she first read Walter Farley’s *The Black Stallion* as a child. She started riding Shetland ponies at age eight and moved on from there. Stephanie has competed in Hunter, Jumper, Equitation, and Eventing, but now she concentrates mainly on Dressage. She owns an Arabian/Dutch Warmblood mare and Purebred Arabian filly.

Ruff has a Master’s Degree in Animal Science from the University of Kentucky where her focus was on equine genetics. From there she moved onto the Arabian Jockey Club in Colorado and the Arabian Racing Cup, where she became well-versed in the Arabian racing industry. When she started her freelance writing business, SC Equine Enterprises in 1998, she began writing “Equi-Tech”, a monthly column for Arabian Finish Line magazine. She has since written hundreds of articles for a wide variety of equine magazines including Modern Arabian Horse, The Horse, Stable Management and Chronicle of the Horse. She has written *The Inside Track*, a monthly newsletter for the Eastern Arabian Racing Alliance, for 17 years.



*Stephanie Ruff with Nadia's Jewels.  
Photo Credit: Steve Heath*

In 2014, after the sudden passing of Arabian Finish Line editor Bobbi Patscheider, Ruff took over the editing and publishing duties of the magazine. In a short period of time, she has modernized the magazine, added a digital version, revamped the Stallion Guide, created an international presence, updated the website, and added an extensive social media presence. The magazine and its associated brand are being read worldwide by more and more people every month.

### ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION<sup>SM</sup>

10805 East Bethany Drive | Phone 303-696-4500  
Aurora, Colorado 80014 | Fax 303-696-4599  
[www.ArabianHorses.org](http://www.ArabianHorses.org) | [info@ArabianHorses.org](mailto:info@ArabianHorses.org)



"I'm very excited to become part of *Arabian Horse Life*. I feel like I have come full circle. I first started with the Arabian Jockey Club as part of the Arabian Horse Registry in 1993. I am now totally devoted to the breed and can't wait to share my passion for the Arabian horse through *Arabian Horse Life* with the Arabian Horse Association."

AHA is excited to move forward with the member magazine and is excited to welcome Stephanie.

Mikayla Boge, Director of Marketing, states "Stephanie's background and energy will bring a new drive to our magazine and we are thrilled for our members see that drive translated to our magazine."

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AHA is a major equine association serving 84,000 Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horse owners across North America. AHA registers and maintains a database of more than one million Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses. AHA produces championship events, recognizes over 400 Arabian horse shows and distance rides and provides activities, education, and programs that promote breeding and ownership.

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