



**Debbie Kendrick  
Vice President of Animal Behavior College**

Debbie Kendrick is the vice president of Animal Behavior College (ABC). She has been with ABC since it opened the doors in 1998. Debbie's passion for animals is evident: She has more than 23 years of experience as a professional dog trainer and behavior modification specialist. Debbie is also recognized as a top-level trainer, instructor and lecturer—she is the trainer that other professionals frequently consult for advice. Debbie is a great asset to ABC.

Debbie began her career in 1974 by serving a one-year apprenticeship with an AKC Dog Obedience Judge and Master Trainer. "Schools for dog trainers didn't exist back then," she said. Between 1975 and 1979, she competed in statewide obedience trials with her own dogs and took home titles in basic and advanced obedience skills. From 1980 to 1988, she owned a successful dog training business in Southern California that offered group classes and private lessons, teaching basic and advanced obedience training and problem-solving strategies

In 1988, Debbie accepted the position as Head Trainer at Animal Behavior & Training Associates Inc., (ABTA). As Head Trainer, she was responsible for the dog training program at three different locations in Southern California; all three of which were ranked among the "Top 10" training facilities in California. Her success in the Head Trainer position prompted numerous promotions between 1990 and 1998, including Regional Training Manager and National Sales Manager. In 1998, Steven Appelbaum, President of ABTA, asked her to share in his vision of creating a nationwide school where dog lovers could get the education needed to become professional dog trainers. Debbie gladly accepted the position of Vice President of Animal Behavior College (ABC).

Debbie's contribution to the ABC Dog Obedience Instructor Training Program is extensive. Her personal quest to improve shelter dog rehabilitation and adoption helped create ABC's "Students Saving Lives" program. ABC's Dog Obedience Program (DOP) students are asked to donate at least 10 hours to a local animal shelter, rescue facility or humane society. The program was launched in 2004 and as of January 2014, more than 98,000 hours have been donated to helping sheltering dogs.

Debbie is the author of numerous articles and quotes on dog behavior in national and local pet industry magazines, including *Fido Friendly Magazine* and *Dog Fancy Magazine*. Debbie is an ABC Certified Dog Trainer and a Professional Member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers.

Born in New York, Debbie relocated to California when she was a teenager. She successfully raised three daughters and is now the proud grandmother of two granddaughters. Her four-legged family consists of three large dogs.

Debbie attributes her success to the fact that she followed her dream and is thankful for the opportunity to be part of the pack that promotes humane animal training through scientific education.