



Deborah Waskow Eckels



Debbie grew up with dogs, showing in the breed ring for the first time at age four. Showing, training and breeding dogs and horses has been a consuming part of her life. Now dogs are her professional life as well, including managing a herding facility with sheep, ducks and geese used for many AKC and AHBA trials each year.

Debbie got her first Bouvier in 1988. The next year at a dog show in Southern California, many breeds were being instinct tested and she was hooked. Since then, she has put over 75 herding titles on her own and other people's dogs. She has tested, trained, coached or titled representatives of almost every AKC and AHBA recognized herding breeds. Working with the different breeds, including rare breeds, has been very educational. Working directly with different breeds bred for different purposes puts the puzzle together.

Debbie's most recent star is Dual Champion Frontier Strait Shooter CD RAE HTDIIId, a Bouvier whose relationship with her has brought much pleasure. Debbie says "Watching students compete successfully earning titles, high in trials and multiple herding championships in all venues tells me I've given back to the sport what it has given me."