

Suzanne Hetts, Ph.D.

Suzanne Hetts holds a Ph.D. in animal behavior from the Zoology department at Colorado State University (CSU) and is certified by the [Animal Behavior Society](#) as an applied animal behaviorist. Certification lets you know that we meet the professional standards set by the ABS for education, experience, and ethics.

Dr. Hetts has worked with veterinarians (at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at Colorado State University), where she co-founded a pet loss support service; at an animal shelter (the Denver Dumb Friends League) where she founded their behavior department; and has owned a dog training business and trained and shown her own dogs in competitive obedience as well as being an obedience judge emeritus. By working with pets, people and professionals in so many different settings, she's developed a broad understanding of relationships between people and pets you'll appreciate.

Dr. Hetts is widely respected in professional circles, being a frequent [speaker](#) at many national humane, dog training, animal welfare, animal control and veterinary conferences. Internationally, she's presented for ARCA Brasil, an animal welfare organization based in Sao Paulo; for Animal Fancier's Club and Osaka Communication Arts in Japan; and in October of 2004 she'll travel to Australia to speak to the Association of Pet Dog Trainers. Suzanne has been a consultant to Delta Society's Service Dog Education System, is the past chair of the Animal Behavior Society's Board of Professional Certification, has served on the Board of Directors of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, and was the Scientific Director of Delta Society's ["Standards for Professional Dog Trainers"](#), and in 1998, was the recipient of American Humane Association's "K.C." Faculty Award For Outstanding Teaching.

Dr. Hetts is a columnist for "*Dog Watch*", a newsletter produced by Cornell University, and with her husband Dr. Estep, writes a bi-weekly column for the Rocky Mountain News, a Denver newspaper. You can find the books and videos that Dr. Hetts has authored by viewing the [Product](#) section of our site.

In her spare time, she is a devoted Parrothead (the name for fans of singer and author Jimmy Buffett), and loves to be outdoors in the beautiful Colorado Rocky Mountains, doing anything from windsurfing to skiing. She and Dan share their lives with two rescue Dalmatians (Mocha and Ashley) and a large orange cat aptly named Buffett who runs the house.