

# Chapter 1 – Introduction to SOAR

## A History of SOAR

Starting Over Airedale Rescue, Inc. (SOAR) began in July of 2009 as an organized group of volunteers who wanted to help homeless Airedales in the states of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

## SOAR's Principles

Rescue is done in many ways by different groups. Even groups within the Airedale Rescue community have different standards and policies. The goal of SOAR is to hold ourselves to the highest standard possible.

This manual is an attempt to share our guidelines, policies and procedures with all SOAR volunteers. We have developed this manual through our collective years of experience helping Airedales find new homes. We ask that all volunteers performing rescue under the umbrella of SOAR familiarize themselves with the *SOAR Volunteer Guide and Procedures Manual*. Some of our most dearly held principles are:

- The safety and welfare of our rescue volunteers, their families and our Airedales are our top priority.
- We value the contributions of SOAR volunteers.
- We do not allow any Airedale to languish at a shelter.
- We look for the best adoptive homes possible for our dogs.
- We strive to educate potential owners about Airedale terriers and responsible Airedale ownership.
- We vow to work together respectfully with other volunteers even though we may not always agree.