



**Award-winning writer Sheila W. Boneham, Ph.D.**, has been touched by some form of animal rescue all her life. She grew up surrounded by dogs, cats, horses, and more—Chihuahuas, a Scottish Deerhound, a rescued Irish Wolfhound, two Miniature Schnauzers (Sheila found one of them coated with ice in a parking lot on a January night), and a number of canine and feline mixed breeds. She was Indiana State Equitation Champion for three years, and several of her family's equine members would now be called rescues, as would the long line of animals her family took in and rehomed.

In the early 1990's, Sheila founded and worked with rescue programs for Labrador and Australian Shepherds, and she has served as a volunteer for several rescue organizations and shelters, teaching in-service workshops on basic dog handling techniques and breed identification as well as public courses in basic dog care, obedience, and bite prevention. Sheila has bred highly successful Australian Shepherds, and has trained and titled Aussies and Labs in several canine sports.

Sheila holds a doctorate in folklore from Indiana University, and taught for some 20 years at universities in Maryland, Washington, D.C., Indiana, Kuwait, and Tunisia (and yes, she brought a dog home from one of her overseas jaunts). Several of her books have been named best in their categories by the Dog Writers Association of America and the Cat Writers Association, including *Breed Rescue* (Alpine, 1998), the first book devoted to starting and running a canine rescue program.

Sheila lives in Indiana with her husband Roger, Australian Shepherd Jay, Labrador Retriever Lily, and the ever-present spirits of her other animal friends. When she isn't writing, speaking, or teaching, Sheila keeps busy with canine sports, painting, and gardening. Learn more at [www.rescuematters.com](http://www.rescuematters.com) or [www.sheilaboneham.com](http://www.sheilaboneham.com).