

MIDWEST AKITA RESCUE SOCIETY

ADOPTION INFORMATION BROCHURE

HISTORY OF MIDWEST AKITA RESCUE SOCIETY (MARS)

In 1998, Midwest Akita Rescue Society (MARS) was formed by a very small group of concerned individuals that felt that they could assist orphaned Akitas residing in the Midwestern region. The purpose of this organization was to rescue, medically treat, rehabilitate and re-home abandoned, relinquished or otherwise homeless Akita dogs. Co-Founders Deanna O'Brien and Lisa R. McCluskey were a part of the initial individuals that helped create MARS.

WHERE DO WE GET THESE AKITAS?

The majority of them are from animal shelters. When an Akita is brought into the shelter, the shelter notifies MARS and a MARS volunteer adopts the dog from the shelter when necessary. More and more Akitas are being turned into rescue by their owners. Once the cute little puppy grows into a very large, powerful adult, the owner does not want to face the task of living with an Akita. All Akitas are given a complete temperament evaluation screening.

...ONCE MARS GETS THEM?

Once an animal ends up in our rescue, they are wormed, given vaccinations, spayed or neutered, and live in a Foster Home (when available) until a suitable home can be found for the animal. We euthanize only terminally ill or excessively aggressive dogs, those that would be impossible to ever place.

WHAT ARE THE ADOPTION COSTS?

We charge an adoption fee, which is tax deductible because we are a non-profit organization listed with the IRS. If the new owner feels the dog will not fit into his home, the animal is returned and a refund is given or another dog may be selected. All orphans must be returned to MARS if an adoption does not work out, but the adoption fee is only refunded if the return takes place during the first four weeks of ownership.

WHAT ARE THE ADOPTION REQUIREMENTS?

All potential homes are well screened. The new owner must be experienced with a large working breed dog or be willing to learn. The dog must be provided with a fenced yard, kennel run or regular leash walking regime, protection from the weather, the basics of life (food and water), regular veterinary care, a sturdy collar (provided by MARS) and leash and a license must be purchased within the first 4 weeks of ownership. Due to the sheer size of the Akita breed, no Akita is placed in a home with resident children under the age of 10. Every Akita placed by MARS has become a family member, loved and well cared for. For safety reasons and danger of theft, Akitas are not permitted to be outdoors if a household member is not at home.

HOW ARE CONTRIBUTIONS USED?

MARS is operated by unpaid volunteers, so every penny contributed goes to the care and well being of the Akitas. The money is used to pay for their daily care. In addition, donations are used for veterinary care (vaccinations, spaying, etc.). The funds are also used for newspaper advertisements, which help us to find good homes for the animals. There are NO administrative costs, except the printing of this brochure, which was necessary so that we could tell you about MARS.

TELL US ABOUT THE AKITAS

We make every attempt to take in only purebred Akitas. We get dogs of every age, from 2 months to 9 years, and in every color. Some are show quality. We get long coats, smaller import types and massive ones. Some dogs have been abused and must stay with us until they are rehabilitated. Many dogs are already well trained.

AKITA RESCUE IS NON-PROFIT!

Akita Owners Rescue Foundation, Inc. d.b.a. Midwest Akita Rescue Society is a non-profit, all volunteer organization dedicated to helping Akitas in distress. MARS depends entirely on tax-deductible donations to continue this work.

ADOPTION

Suppose you want to adopt a dog from AKITA RESCUE? You call us and talk it over, read our information package, then fill out an adoption application form. Our representatives will check out your references, getting as much information as possible in order to decide if you will provide an environment compatible with any dog we may have waiting for a new home. One or two AKITA RESCUE VOLUNTEERS will visit you in your home in order to ask specific questions about what you want in a dog and to talk about the dogs we have available. Any potential problems we see at that time will be fully discussed and resolved. After the investigation is complete, you will be notified either that 1) We have one or more dogs you may wish to

adopt; 2) We have nothing at this time that suits your needs but will notify you if such a dog comes in; or 3) We cannot place an AKITA with you.

When you have been approved for adoption, you will be introduced to the AKITAS we think would suit your home. Each will have been spayed or neutered, and will be up-to-date on all vaccinations, heartworm negative and receiving monthly preventative medication, and in general good health. The AKITA will have been evaluated on its response to male and female adults, children, cats, other AKITAS, small dogs and various other stimuli.

There is a \$275.00 required donation when you adopt; additionally, unusual expenses incurred during the investigation or adoption (for example, long distance telephone charges or shipping costs) will also be paid by the person adopting the AKITA. During the one month trial period, you may return the dog to **AKITA RESCUE** at any time and receive a refund of the \$275 donation (but not the additional expense). After the one month trial, you may still return the AKITA at any time, but with no refund of the \$275 donation. All consultation and problem solving services offered by AKITA RESCUE VOLUNTEERS are, of course, available to you as an AKITA owner. Want to know more? Give us a call!

YES! I WANT TO HELP AKITAS IN THE CARE OF MIDWEST AKITA RESCUE SOCIETY
(M.A.R.S.)

ENCLOSED IS MY DONATION OF \$_____.

_____ I AM INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING

_____ PLEASE KEEP ME AWARE OF EVENTS M.A.R.S. ATTENDS

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____

ZIP_____ PHONE_____

EMAIL_____

MAIL TO:

MIDWEST AKITA RESCUE SOCIETY

C/O DEANNA O'BRIEN

6538 N. NORDICA

CHICAGO, IL 60631 773.792.1309

MIDWEST AKITA RESCUE SOCIETY

C/O LISA R. MCCLUSKEY

110 SCOTTSWOOD DRIVE

URBANA, IL 61802 217.344.9115

www.akitas.org/mars-index.html