

How do I become a member?

Membership in Heart Bandits costs \$25.00 per year. You will need to fill out a Membership Application and mail it with your dues to Heart Bandits. You may download the form from our web site or request one by mail.

Applications & Information

Additional information is available on the Heart Bandits web site. This includes Chapter locations & contact information, links to available Eskies, Eskie Snapshots, and news. All of the Heart Bandits forms as well as on-line versions of the Adoption, Foster Home, & Eskie Railroad applications are also available.

<http://www.heartbandits.com>

Use the form below to make donations or to request applications by mail.

Mail to: Heart Bandits, PO Box 4322, Fresno CA, 93744-4322

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: (_____) _____
Email: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Application <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Foster Home Application <input type="checkbox"/> Eskie Railroad Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Heart Bandits Chapter Application
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer? <input type="checkbox"/> Donation (tax deductible) \$ _____

(local chapter contact information above)

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What is Heart Bandits?

Heart Bandits is a dog rescue organization devoted to the American Eskimo Dog. We rescue American Eskimo Dogs in need, provide loving care, and find qualified, permanent, adoptive homes for them.

Heart Bandits:

- saves American Eskimo Dogs from shelters, humane societies and from situations of neglect and/or cruelty.
- takes in American Eskimo Dogs from concerned citizens who have found them as strays.
- assists American Eskimo Dogs whose owners can no longer provide a permanent home by finding them new permanent and loving homes.

Heart Bandits is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization with chapters across the USA and Canada. Our Chapter Directors, Foster Homes, Officers, and Trustees are all volunteers. Our rescue efforts are managed out of our own homes and are juggled with our paying jobs and family.

Heart Bandits expenses are funded through our Membership, adoption fees, and donations. Your support is greatly appreciated.

What is an American Eskimo dog?

American Eskimo Dogs are often called "Spitz". "Spitz" is not a breed of dog, but rather a group of breeds with similar characteristics. Other breeds in the Spitz group include Keeshonden, Finnish Spitz, and Pomeranians. The preferred nickname for the American Eskimo is "Eskie".

Eskies are highly intelligent and make wonderful companion animals. They have white or cream colored double coats, plume-like curled tails, distinctive black noses, erect triangular ears, and come in standard (15"-19"- at shoulder), miniature (12"-15"), and toy (9"-12") sizes.



Why the name Heart Bandits?

Because given the smallest chance to do so, an Eskie will steal your heart!



The American Eskimo is one of the most intelligent of all canine breeds. They are very curious, learn quickly and are eager to please. Their antics while playing are delightful. They are very loving and very aware of their family. Anyone who has ever had an "Eskie Hug" truly understands their unique ability to love.

How do I adopt a Heart Bandits Eskie?

All adoptive homes must complete an adoption application prior to adopting a Heart Bandits American Eskimo Dog. Each application is screened. Based on this information, we will attempt to match you with the appropriate Eskie in your area. At the adoption an adoption fee will be charged and you must sign the Heart Bandits adoption agreement. The adoption fee varies with the location of the chapter housing the Eskie (\$125-\$300). The fee is based on the average cost of veterinary services in that area.

Though you may think our adoption procedures are a bit stringent, please remember that many of these are dogs that have already been separated from a home, and not always a loving one. We try very hard to make the adoptions successful and make the best possible decisions for the dogs. Our adoption process helps to assure us that you are ready for the commitment and responsibility of adopting a dog into your family. Our top priority is the right Eskie into the right home. Adoptions are not complete until everyone is happy - you, the Chapter Director involved, and the Eskie being adopted.

How can I become a Foster Home for Heart Bandits dogs?

The service our foster homes provide is invaluable to the well being of the rescued dogs. Our chapters cannot handle the number of Eskies in need alone. Without your help, Heart Bandits would not be able to continue rescuing dogs and finding them loving homes on such a grand scale. One of the most difficult things our chapters are faced with is being unable to rescue an Eskie for lack of space. By fostering an Eskie for Heart Bandits you have essentially saved its life.



Just like adoptive homes, all foster homes must complete an application before becoming a foster home for Heart Bandits. Your foster home application will give us a better idea of the type of environment that you will be able to provide while the Eskie is in your care. Being a foster home is not easy, but it is very rewarding. Please consider providing a temporary home for a Heart Bandits Eskie.

Heart Bandits Membership

Heart Bandits is an all volunteer organization that is sustained by our members, adoption fees, and through donations.

Our members support us at three basic levels.

- First, annual membership fees are used to help pay for the costs of rescue operations such as vet care, shelter fees, advertising, and phone calls. These membership fees are vital to our financial viability.
- Second, many of our members participate in our rescue activities.

Such activities include:

- helping with special events.
 - doing home visits for adoption screening and follow-up.
 - providing transportation for Eskies being adopted or rescued.
 - submitting articles for our newsletter and web site.
 - providing assistance in the member's area of expertise.
- Third, a few of our members actively participate in the day to day rescue operations. These very special members provide the primary labor force of Heart Bandits by:
- providing foster care for a homeless American Eskimo Dogs until a qualified home can be found
 - serving as a Director of a Heart Bandits Chapter
 - serving as an Officer or Trustee of Heart Bandits



Why should I become a member of Heart Bandits?

Quite frankly, the primary benefit of becoming a member of Heart Bandits is knowing that you are supporting an organization that is attempting to reduce the number of Eskies sentenced to death each year. As a member you will receive a copy of the Heart Bandits newsletter four times per year. Members vote for the Heart Bandits Trustees in our annual elections and are also eligible to run for Trustee themselves.