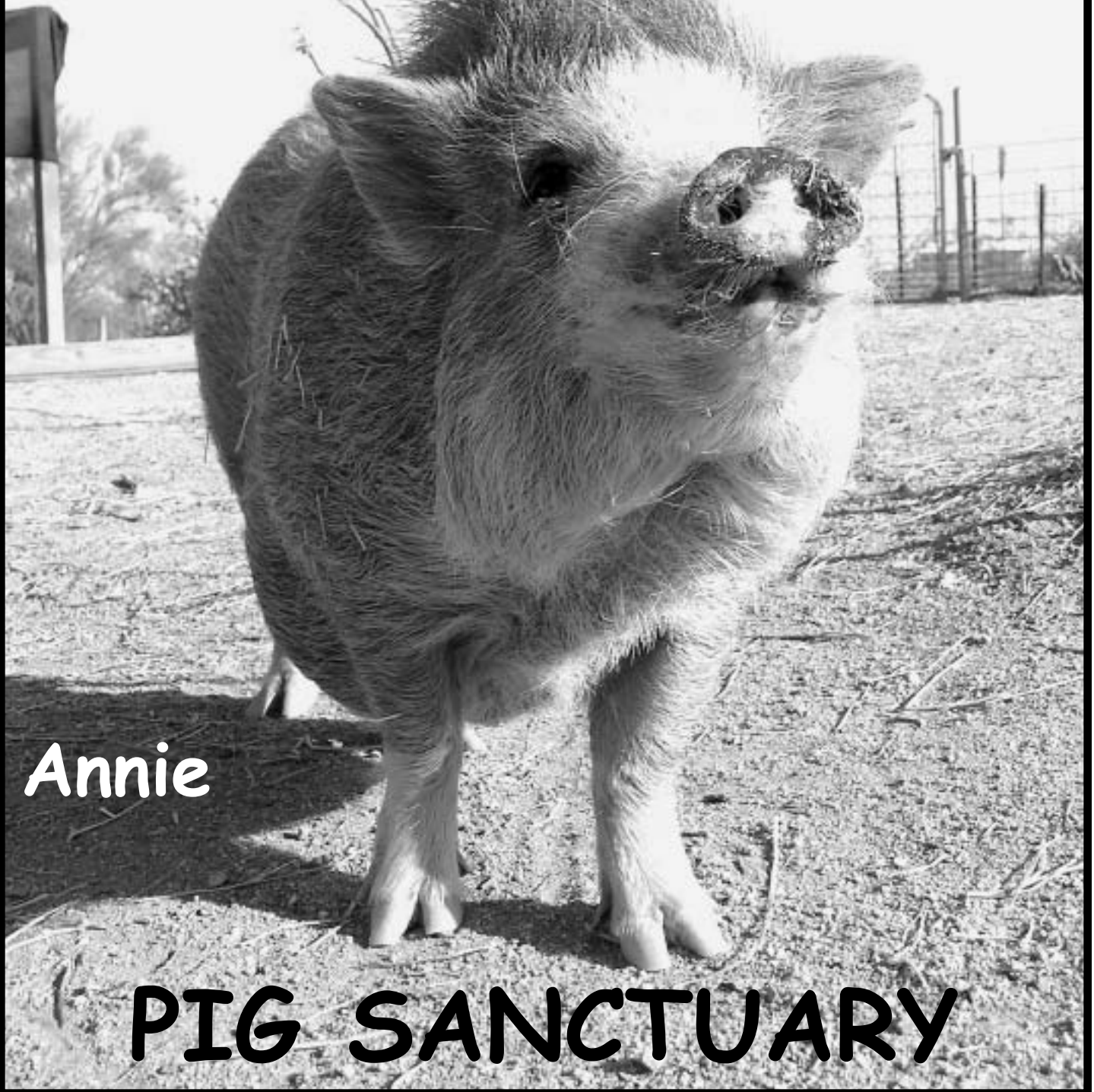


IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO. 11

FEBRUARY
2005



Annie

PIG SANCTUARY

**Ironwood Pig Sanctuary
34656 E. Crystal Visions Road
Marana, AZ 85653**

February 1, 2005

Dear Supporter,

I would like to wish you a happy, healthy New Year. I am personally looking forward to full recovery from my October 2004 accident, and I am hopeful I will soon be able to return to the sanctuary and my many pig friends in a very short while. I have missed them terribly. Some have gone home to new families without my being able to say good-bye and some have come and gone without my ever having had a chance to meet them on their way to a new home via Ironwood. But worst of all some have passed away and I have not been there to pay my last respects. This has hurt me terribly. These past months have been a very difficult and frustrating time in my life, but all of your cards, get well wishes, phone calls, and visits have given me strength and hope that I will return to good health.

Well over a hundred pigs have come to Ironwood in 2004. Many will live out their lives with us and many others went on to new homes. We have given each the one gift we all need, a home. A place where no harm will come to them. Where food is an every day occurrence, bedding surrounds them on cold nights, and no one sleeps in the rain. Where swimming pools and mud wallows are plentiful in the hot summers. It's so little and yet it is everything to these sad pigs, some arriving with bones sticking out of malnourished bodies or hooves so long they can barely walk, or pigs so fat they have labored breathing and eyes that are no longer useful, hidden behind rolls of fat. We take them all and we give them a home, love, security, and a routine they can depend on. It's what we do, it's who we are. The line between us and them is only a formality. We share every day as though it were their last or our last, knowing that one day it will be, and we have done our utter best at being there for them.

Sincerely,
Mary Schanz.

Mary C. Schanz

PS: We so appreciate and depend on your help. Without it we could not keep the promises that we make to these sweet pigs as they enter Ironwood.



Mary At The Annex

GOOD BYE ABIGAIL

In the last newsletter, I wrote a paragraph about one of our senior pigs named Abigail. I've known Abigail for several years, even before we opened Ironwood. In November, we attempted to save Abigail's life by having her spayed. Her uterus had become twisted and tangled with parts of it enlarged and holding fluids. She made it back home after the surgery but her internal bleeding, secondary to the disease process, continued. Michelle and I rushed Abigail back to our vet where she underwent yet another surgery. Unfortunately, the bleeding could not be stopped and Abigail slept peacefully on through to the end with us holding her and telling her how much we loved her. Standing there rubbing her back and talking softly to her, I flashed through memories of Abigail, like the first day I ever met her and she knocked me flat on the ground and tore the leg of my jeans with her teeth. The time she had me cornered in a pen and left me with a grapefruit sized knot on my shin. The many times she made me laugh and smile at the funny way she'd always sit in the pool. The gentle times when she would roll over for a belly rub then stretch and moan in pleasure. The cold winter morning when I rushed out to the sound of her screaming only to find her

wrapped so tight in her blanket that she couldn't get out and just wanted some help. There were many sides to Abigail, but I treasure



each and every one of them. I miss her every day. I even miss having to watch my back as I feed the others in the Assisted Living field where Abigail lived. She was good at sneaking up behind me and surprising me with a nip or push on my leg just to remind me that she could still get me. Sometimes I feel like she is still there, watching and waiting for me. Whether for a head slamming or a good head scratching, with Abigail you just never knew what to expect, but that's part of what made her so unique and special to me. Abigail is one of those pigs that I will never forget and never stop missing.

----Donna

COVER

Annie is a beautiful, sweet girl who has been at Ironwood since November of 2001. This is her fourth and final home. Her original owners were going to kill Annie and the rest of her littermates simply because they didn't want them. Another couple took her and her brother Sammy. Initially Annie was separated from the unneutered Sammy and shared a pen with a chicken. The roof was so low that Annie couldn't stand up. After Sammy was neutered they kept them both in a very small pen. Their only shelter was an enclosed set of steps where each pig had to sleep on one step. We were involved initially when we neutered Sammy and felt badly about their living conditions and when they finally agreed to release them, we placed them temporarily at a cat and dog rescue because there was no room at Ironwood. We were very happy to give them a good final home when space became available at Ironwood.



Ironwood Pig Sanctuary's Community Involvement

The beginnings of the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary and its service to the Arizona community began in December of 1998 when cofounders Ben and Mary saw an article in the local newspaper by Carla McClain which featured a potbellied pig sanctuary in need of volunteers. That was the beginning of their being hooked on pigs. They became very involved and in the summer of 2000 realized that the sanctuary was quickly outgrowing the 2.5 acres that over 200 pigs called home. More calls were coming in every day to take additional pigs. There was a serious need for a new place these unwanted pigs could call home.

After much discussion Ben and Mary decided to open a new pot bellied pig sanctuary. They began a property search and found a parcel in Pinal County with plenty of space and totally legal for pigs. At the same time they spoke with a long time volunteer, Donna, who had just quit her teaching career of 18 years to look for a job more to her liking. They asked her if she would be willing to be the manager at a new sanctuary in exchange for a place to live. She accepted the offer immediately and they all began in earnest to make plans for what would become the

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary.

Raw land was purchased with no water, power, sewer or facilities of any kind. Work was started to build the sanctuary and we ended up right in the middle of the hot AZ summer building our sanctuary! We had our first pens ready in June of 2001 and took in our first two pigs, Claire and Popeye, on June 11th.

From this meager beginning we

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is dedicated to eliminating the suffering of pot bellied pigs by promoting spaying and neutering, assisting owners and sanctuaries, and providing a permanent home in a safe nurturing environment for those that are abandoned, abused, neglected, or unwanted.

now have 434 pigs coming from the original local sanctuary, two other sanctuaries in Phoenix, owner releases, Humane Societies, Animal Control facilities all over AZ and many strays rescued in the desert.

Ironwood promotes spaying and particularly neutering to control the pig population in the community. We have, in conjunction with our veterinarian,

Dr. Page, provided free neutering services to the original sanctuary and a sanctuary in Apache Junction and are planning on neutering the male babies from the Kingman rescue held at the RUFF sanctuary there. Ironwood spays and neuters all pigs that are adopted from our facility. We have also picked up pigs from owners in the community so that our vet, with our assistance, could perform a low cost neuter. We also have transported pigs for owners to their vet when they were unable to transport them themselves.

Ironwood continues to assist other sanctuaries. Just recently we made four trips to Piglet Acres in Apache Junction to build fencing and shelters in order to ensure that the 11 unneutered males there were adequately separated from the females. A number of "accidents" have occurred there in the past. We are also making plans to neuter the 11 boars.

When St. Matilda's sanctuary ran into trouble in Queen Creek, Arizona this past summer we took in 46 pigs that they were not able to care for. We made a special field, called our Northwest field, for them with a new water system and shelters. Many of their shelters were transported from St. Matilda's.

To help out the original sanctuary

Ironwood (Continued)

we took 75 of their pigs a few years ago, and when they were unable to continue with their sanctuary we were able to purchase the property in May 2003 and kept most of the pigs that lived there. This property is now what we call our Annex. Just recently we were able to take the remaining 30 pigs for a total of 190.

When an owner was not been able to keep their pig for whatever reason, Ironwood was willing to bring that pig to the sanctuary. Since most owners are not able to transport their own pig safely, we do it for them. We have traveled all over Arizona and into New Mexico picking up unwanted pigs from owners, humane societies and animal control.

Since the sanctuary is becoming full we are not able to take all of the pigs that owners want to release. Mary has started offering a networking service where she matches up people who don't want their pig with someone who does. We are, however, always ready to take in an abused pig or one who is at risk for their safety or health.

We feel that the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has made a large impact on the pot bellied pig community of Arizona by offering a home for these many unwanted pigs, most of whom are very sweet and appreciate the secure home with plenty of shelter, shade, water and regular meals.

Herman

Since coming to work at the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary in early October, I have had the honor and joy of meeting and working with so many wonderful little (and big) pigs.

Every day as I walk through the fields I come across a pig and think "oh, I'd love to sponsor her or him", but I know if I allowed my heart to go that route my paycheck would be returned to the sanctuary for the sponsorship program, so I keep myself in check.

But I do sponsor one pig, his name is Herman. Herman lives in a cozy igloo in the north field, tends to keep to himself and is usually pretty quiet.

When I first met Herman I was visiting from Montana working a trial work week prior to being hired by the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. On my first day while we were feeding, we noticed Herman's left ear had been bitten, was bleeding and swollen and would need medical attention. We approached Herman slowly, offering comforting words, but he was skeptical of our intentions. We were finally able to get close enough to him so we could flip him (this was the only way we would be able to clean his ear)

and while he was being cleaned up I noticed his big brown soulful eyes looking up at me - I just fell in love with the little guy!

The day before I left to go back to Montana after my trial week I



decided that regardless of where my next job was going to be I was going to sponsor Herman.

Now, after being employed at Ironwood, when I walk through the north field sometimes Herman finds me before I find him, we always have a nice visit and sometimes he lets me give him a belly rub, although he really likes to have you rub right behind his ears.

And although I can't sponsor every pig, I've made a commitment to care for and love all the pigs as much as I possibly can. And I guess that's just what they all really want and need after all.

----Michelle

2004, A Good Year for Piggies Going Home!

As 2004 came to an end I took the opportunity to look back to see how well we had done with our networking adoptions. I was



Scooter with new friend Bonk

pleasantly surprised to find we had adopted 47 pigs this year!! We took in 56 pigs from owner releases, strays, animal control, and abandonment. I am very proud of these numbers. It takes a lot of hard work to find placement for all these pigs.

All of this would be wonderful news for Ironwood had we not taken in 46 pigs from St. Matilda's in July and the remaining 31 pigs from Pigs*A*Lot found their way back to our Annex location in October for an actual total of 133 pigs.

Once the call comes in to release a pig, when possible, I try to find out some history on the pig or pigs. Are they sociable, how old are they, is this an emergency, are

they spayed or neutered? These are all important questions related to trying to get these new pigs into a home when we have had a person who has inquired about adopting a pig or pigs.

Once we have found a match a home visit is made in order to do a yard check. This could range from a few miles away to a several hour drive that may require an overnight stay. On occasion we have willing volunteers who will do a yard check for us which saves us a good deal of time and gasoline. We often help with fence building and shelter building in order to get our pigs into otherwise loving homes. We try to keep fencing on hand so Ben and Bob can head out to help get the property ready for the piggies' new home.

Sometimes the released pigs will go directly to their new home, but most of the time they come to Ironwood first where they can be spayed or neutered if necessary, vaccinated, wormed, trimmed and sometimes matched with a new friend. And when the time comes for them to go "home" Ben and I or Bob or Laura will take them to their new home. We do this in order to continue to take pigs that need homes without increasing our numbers. We do get some

pigs however that are either not suitable for adoption or prospective homes do not materialize. We then find ourselves with new pigs, but we have continued to adopt some from our existing herds, so our numbers at the end of this year would have been nearly even had it not been for the two sanctuary rescues.



Wilbur & Neevis getting a snack at their new home

I am going to remain an optimist and look forward to being able to place most of the pigs that need to be released in the coming year. Please help us do that by adopting some sweet pigs or referring us to someone who wants to adopt. Only through adoption can we continue to take in pigs who now are waiting throughout Arizona, from Willcox to Kingman, for a new home.

----Mary Schanz

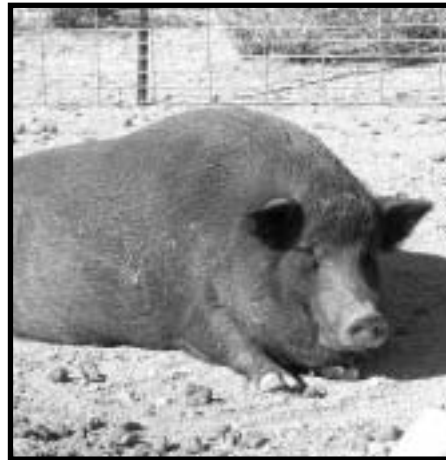
Meet Our Pigs



Oliver -----

Oliver's family lost their home and had to find a place for all their animals. So here comes Oliver, a tough little 2-year-old not yet neutered. He has had a rough time since his arrival back in May of 2004. Oliver started out with eye problems that required rinsing and ointment. Then he got neutered and developed an infection and had to be on antibiotics as well as daily flushing of the incision area. The eyes got better but never completely healed, so off goes Oliver to have an operation on his eyes. After recovering from all that, Oliver finally got to join a herd in our north field. The adjustment was very difficult for him. He was constantly involved in fights and had to have his various wounds treated. He had trouble dealing with "the crowds" at the feed trough during meals, so we built a small feeding pen for him. This worked out well for Oliver giving him a safe place to eat in peace. Later, Oliver developed an abscess from a bite wound and had to move back to a pen while that was draining and being treated. Oliver has now established himself within

the herd. He has his own pigloo under a palo verde tree and is content with sunning and grazing with the rest of the pigs in his field. It took a while for Oliver to settle in, but he is now healthy and happy with his new life.



Rosalyn -----

Back in January of 2002 we took in 57 pigs from an overcrowded sanctuary whose pigs just needed more space. We fenced off the east section of our field so these pigs, which were already an established herd, could have their own area. Rosalyn is one of those 57 pigs. She was not tame when she arrived here which was the case with the majority of these pigs. This past fall Rosalyn had a mammary tumor removed. She needed daily cleansing and treatment for several weeks after the surgery. Then, after her return to the field following her recovery period, Rosalyn received a very nasty pig bite to her ear that required daily treatment. All the medical attention on her incision and her ear helped Rosalyn get used to being touched by people. Now she just flops right on over for a

belly rub and loves for anyone to come spend time with her. She has turned into a very sweet, loving pig.



Sweet Pea -----

Sweet Pea is another case of abandonment due to divorce. We have had many pigs like her whose owners get divorced and then can no longer afford the pig, simply don't want the pig because it was "his" or "hers" or they have to move to a smaller place where there is no room for the pig. Sweet Pea is around 9 years old. When she arrived back in September, she was lethargic and very grouchy. Each day we would force her out of her pigloo into the exercise yard so she would move around and get some fresh air and sunshine. After moving to our Assisted Living, Phase Two field, there was a wonderful transition in Sweet Pea's attitude. She is so happy and loving now! She claimed a shelter right by the front gate and comes out to nap in the sun or wander around grazing on hay. If you go in to visit, Sweet Pea will come over to get some attention and belly rubs. She is very affectionate and definitely living up to her name.

----Donna

Third Annual Open House

Ironwood's third annual open house in November was a great success with over 180 visitors meeting our pigs. Many were sponsors who brought special treats for their pig. Everyone had a good time, including the pigs who received belly rubs, attention and treats.

The day was perfect with a few clouds forming in the afternoon. Quite a difference from the previous day when it rained most of the day and the following day which was windy and cold.

Mary was able to visit the sanctuary for the first time since her accident. She couldn't lead any tours from her wheel chair but greeted new arrivals at the Visitor Center.

Visitors arrived throughout the day allowing everyone to receive a tour from Donna or Michelle. Ben filled in occasionally.

This year's open house was quite an improvement over last year when over 750 visitors arrived overwhelming our resources and our pigs. That was a mistake, so



Ben Starting a Tour

this year we only sent invitations to previous visitors, supporters, and friends.

Friends are Forever

Pigs form very strong relationships with people, but there's nothing like the bond between two piggy friends. Take for instance, Owen and



Owen & Loretta

Loretta. It was love at first sight for those two when they met out in the field. Loretta is lame and doesn't get around too much, choosing to spend most of her time in or near their shelter, which

they share with about 8 other pigs. Owen likes to wander and is very curious about anything that's going on with people or pigs. After his adventures, Owen comes back to the shelter and lies down beside Loretta. Then in this wonderful singsong voice, Owen will tell Loretta about everything he's seen and done. She watches him very intently as if she's truly hanging on every word he has to say. Then they'll settle close to one another for a nap. Another example is six pigs from the St. Matilda's group that are always together. Spot, Dapple, Woolly Bully, Sarah, Ella and Bilbo all share a shelter and will pile in like sardines to fit in there. Another inseparable group is four of our senior pigs in the Assisted Living,

Phase Two field. Jack, Ebony, Charlotte and Tippy go everywhere together. There are many, many more whether it's pairs or small groups that absolutely adore one another. We always try to encourage people to adopt two pigs for that reason. The friendships these pigs form are a very important part of their lives. They need us to provide for their basic survival needs, but they need each other to survive emotionally.



Spot & Dapple

Sponsor A Pig!

Amos
Angel
Anna
Baldwin
Bandit
Bennie
Bentley
Betsy
Blackjack
Black Socks
Bonita
Bradley
Buster
Charlie
Charlotte
Chesney
Chi
Chorizo
Chrissy
Clarece
Clover
Clyde
Collie
Daisy Mae
Daley
Desiree
Dewie
Dixie Lee
Doc
Dorothy
Duane
Ebby



Joseph

Edith
Edwin
Ellie Mae
Ferdy
Franklin
Gilbert
Gracie

Latasha
Lennie
Little'Un
Loretta
Louie
Lucy
Mai-Ly



Sambo

Prissy
Profit
Roger
Rosie
Rosalyn
Sabastian
Sally
Sambo
Scout
Shannon
Shelton
Spot
Squiggy
Stevie
Tai-San
Tillie
Tina
Tulip
Verdell
Vinnie
Wallace
Walter Riley
Wanda
Waylon
White Socks
Willard



Ironwood's sponsor program is a wonderful way for you to become involved in the life of an individual pig here at the sanctuary. A monthly donation of \$30 provides for their food, water, shelter and health care needs. In return, you receive periodic letters and pictures keeping you informed of how your pig is doing and what is happening in his or her life. Please join our family of sponsors and become a part of a very important group of supporters. Thanks to all of you! ---Donna

Gretel
Hamlet
Hank
Harley
Harriet
Hart
Hondie



Daley

Mamacita
Margaret
Melba
Missy
Momma
Morgan
Mr. Pigg
Otis
Pearl
Pepe



Clover

Honey
Hoss
Huey
Hunter
Irma
Jackson
Jethro
John Coffey
Jolee
Jumper
Kane
Kris

Pete
Phoebe
Piggy Sue
Piglet
Poindexter
Popeye
Porky
Precious
Pretty Girl
Princess



Aussie & Donna



And There are Many More...

Ironwood's Annex Update

Let me start off by saying thank you to all of our volunteers and supporters.

With Jeannie's donation we purchased a drill to use to put up carpet doors for winterizing the shelters. And thank you Pam for all the donated carpet.

We had about 16 volunteers over that day all running around putting up carpet and repairing shelters. Ohh, let me not forget raking. You know that never goes away with pigs. Tim, we love to see you every other weekend to help us out.

----Pamala

Our Annex property continues to mature. We have made repairs from the summer storm and thanks to Carella and Steve we have a nice solid shed there now to replace the one that was destroyed in the storm. The final Pigs*A*Lot pigs who made their way back to their original home right before my accident have settled in nicely. They had lived there before and were part of the same herd so there was not much difficulty mixing them with their old friends. Pamala set up an area with shelters that is referred to as "their settlement". There are many very sweet pigs at the Annex, and some of them are the

original pigs that were on the property when Ben and I began volunteering there. Petunia III, pictured here, is one of the many pigs who hooked us on pigs. Her mouth was always open like a baby bird waiting for a special treat. She is another one of our seniors at age 15. ----Mary



Petunia III

Cid

The first time I met Cid at the Annex, I had brought fruit for all the pigs. The



usual procedure is to walk fast, throwing fruit out and away so the

pigs scatter a little, because if you just stand there holding the fruit, the pigs will converge on you. So I was walking and throwing and suddenly this white pig was in front of me scrambling backwards with his mouth gaping wide open the whole time and I realized he wanted me to put the food right into his mouth. I obliged. It was the cutest funniest thing I'd ever seen. The pure eager joy that he must have felt knowing that he was in a sea of pigs all vying for the fruit, and he, Cid, was getting it hand fed into his mouth. Well, that was a Friday and I walked on clouds, smiling all weekend, waiting for Monday when I could return to pop fruit into that adorable ugly pig mouth!

----Laura Bayley



I came to Ironwood when I was a little baby. My brother and I were adopted and lived with a couple for two years. Then the neighbors complained about us and we were forced to leave and ended up back here at the sanctuary. ----White Socks

Claire

I was born at another pig sanctuary then adopted as a baby eight and a half years ago. I lived with a woman and another pig named Popeye. When I lived with them, I would get really loud at feeding time (and I mean loud!). The neighbors complained about me, but I didn't care. I just wanted to get fed on time! Anyway, it got to the point where this woman couldn't take care of Popeye and me anymore, so she called Ironwood. We were the very first pigs to move into the new sanctuary back in June of 2001. We got lots of attention since we were the only ones there. A few days later more pigs began coming. Soon all the pens were full and the people were busy building a fence around a huge field just for us. They put in water lines, pools and shelters. Then came the big day that fall when twelve of us moved into the field. It was very exciting! There was so much to explore. The vegetation was so dense you could get lost in there. In fact, some of us used to

hide under the bushes then Donna would panic when she couldn't find us and go running around the desert calling our names. She didn't think it was funny, but it sure made us chuckle!

Over time, more and more pigs came out there to live with us. I met Arnold who became a good friend of mine. He and I used to share the responsibility of being in charge of the herd. Some big groups of pigs came from other



places so the people fenced off a part of the field so they could have their own place to live. Then some of the pigs weren't doing too well in my part of the field, so two smaller areas were fenced off for them. I still have lots of space for my herd though.

I look around today and things look very different than they did back in the old days. There's hardly any vegetation left (not many places to hide except inside a shelter). I guess my friends and I are just a little destructive when it comes to plants. There are so many pigs now! Some of them I've never even met because the field is now divided into seven different areas. I get to visit through the fencing with most of them though. There are lots more pools and these neat shade ramadas where we hang out in the summer. The people built these really big shelters where groups of us can sleep together. Most of the time Arnold and I stay in one of those, but other times I like to go to one of the smaller shelters when I feel like being alone. Sometimes Arnold tags along with me, which is okay. Ironwood is a pretty cool place to live. My friends and I have everything we could ever need and nice people to take care of us. Visitors come and give us belly rubs and sometimes bring treats. What more could a pig ask for!

---Claire

I was brought to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary along with the rest of my family from St. Matilda's sanctuary this summer after my caregiver suddenly moved and my family and I needed a new home. I originally came with my mom, dad and several brothers all the way from Florida from a big case of animal abuse and neglect.

We all live in the Northwest field with the other pigs from St Matilda's. I like it here and hope I never have to move again. --- Pepe



Heartland Animal Health

Heartland Animal Health has made a very generous offer to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. They will reduce the price of the items that the sanctuary normally purchases by 40%! This offer also applies to any of our supporters who would like to purchase products to be shipped to Ironwood. If you would like to make a donation of any of the following products to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, please contact Heartland. The price shown is the reduced price. The sizes shown are the sizes we normally purchase. Please feel free to purchase a smaller size.

Item E1256 Pet Pig Elder-Aide GM 5 lb \$74.97

Item E1120 Pet Pig Survival Plus 32 oz \$45.57

Item E2150 Pet Pig Hair and Skin Conditioner 32 oz \$29.97

Please use this phone number for ordering: 800-325-8414

-----Thank you for all of your support.-----



Jimmy Dean's just yawning. He is a gentle guy and wouldn't hurt anyone.



Volunteer Putting a carpet door on a shelter for the winter while Manny and Jack look on.

Our Wish List

THINGS WE CAN ALWAYS USE:

- * Sunscreen
- * Heartland Products
- * Stamps (37 or 60 cents)
- * Pool Repair Kits
- * Wading Pools & Turtle Sand Boxes
- * Shade Cloth (Black Preferred)
- * Blankets (Used are Great)
- * Dog Houses & Igloo Shelters
- * Gift Card to Home Depot, Target, Walgreen's
- * Vet Wrap
- * Hand Tools, Power Saw
- * Tarps

SHELTER MATERIALS:

- * 1/2 Inch 5 ply, 4 ft X 8 ft Plywood
- * 8 foot 2 x 4's

REALLY BIG TICKET ITEMS:

- * Clinic/Recovery Building
- * Tractor with Back Hoe
- * Water Well
- * Recent version of QuarkXpress (MAC)
- * 5th Wheel, RV or Small Mobile Home

OTHER

- * Mechanic to help repair our Haulster and work on our other vehicles.

Raising Funds Through eBay Giving Works

You can list items on eBay Giving Works and donate some (or all) of your proceeds to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Check them out at www.missionfish.org

Become a Sanctuary Sustainer

By joining as a sanctuary sustainer, a monthly donation, be it \$1 or \$1,000, will be charged to your credit card. The amount, which is determined by you, will be there each month to care for our sweet pigs. To sign up, just fill out the form on the enclosed reply envelope and indicate your monthly contribution.


Thank You for your support!

eScrip --- Sign up Now!

eScrip is a hassle-free way for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary to raise funds through every day purchases you make at eScrip merchants.

eScrip and over 150 merchant partners have created a system that rewards customer loyalty by contributing a percentage of purchases to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. You shop the way you like to shop. It is simple and convenient. All you need to do is register your grocery club card(s) and debit/credit card(s).

Please sign up by visiting www.escrip.com or call us at (520) 575-8469 or write for an enrollment form. Our Group ID is **150540842**. Everyone can join, so be sure to tell all your family and friends. Thank you for all of your help!



We accept donations with the following credit or debit cards for your convenience.

Why not **organize** your class, office, or friends and sponsor one of our sweet pigs. Receive periodic letters and pictures keeping you informed of how your pig is doing and what is happening in his or her life. Please check out page 9 for a pig you just can't resist.

Thank You Everyone

Once again, I would like to first of all give a very special thanks to Donna, Pamala, Michelle, Jenny, Justin, Robert, and my husband Ben, who have all worked so hard to keep both Ironwood facilities in good working order. These have not been easy times for any of us, but due to everyone's hard work the pigs are safe and secure and still have not had their routine disrupted.

The open house was a big success again because we had many volunteers come help with the clean up. Alice and Jacqui shopped for much of the food and John and Francie, not only prepared a lot of food, but they were on hand to set up for the open house. And there were many other volunteers who

came to help and they were on hand to make sure all ran smoothly. Thank you all for helping to make our third annual open house a big success. Thanks to Egees for giving us a 20% discount on our veggie



sandwiches.

Bob and Ben have been traveling to Apache Junction on a regular basis helping with pens and shelters at another sanctuary in the

area. We would like to thank Bob who is always anxious to help with these important projects.

A special thanks goes to Carol and Roy Turner who collected blankets over the whole summer and delivered a whole van full the day we were winterizing. And to Herb who continues to collect blankets throughout the year for Ironwood and the Annex. The pigs love their blankets. We received many other care boxes and Christmas cards again this year as well as items on our wish list. Thank you all so much for thinking of us and our pigs during the holidays. And thank you all for your kind donations.

And finally thank you to Margot Reinke who donated the new tool shed pictured here and many other items from our wish list.

Our Local Ambassadors

Opie and **Cerise** have been seen far and wide around Tucson at Ironwood Pig Sanctuary tabling events. They have made an appearance at the Arizona Animal Fair in Reid Park, pictured here, the 4th Ave Street Fair, Azure Skies Global Gifts, Venture N, the night Tom and David did the fundraiser for Ironwood, Pets and People Positive Living Expo and many other events around town. Cerise and Opie are accompanied by Carolyn or Nikie who help Cerise with the tabling and transporting of Opie to these events. Our pigs do not like to travel so we depend on Opie to be our ambassador. We could not ask for a better representative to meet and greet strangers who have had little or no introduction to pigs and what wonderful companions they can be. And besides, Opie loves the attention and all the treats that come with spending a day working hard for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Keep your eyes open at the next big Tucson event and you may be able to meet Opie in person. Of course Cerise will be near by to be sure Opie doesn't decide to try to become an ambassador for one of the local food vendors instead of for all of our pigs at Ironwood.



MISSION STATEMENT

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary** is dedicated to eliminating the suffering of pot bellied pigs by promoting spaying and neutering, assisting owners and sanctuaries, and providing a permanent home in a safe nurturing environment for those that are abandoned, abused, neglected, or unwanted.

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is accredited by the American Sanctuary Association.

Ziggy

I used to live at St. Matilda's sanctuary but the owner moved suddenly this summer, so I was brought to live at Ironwood



along with 46 other pigs. Nobody here knows about my background and I'm keeping that a secret! My best friend, Missy got to come with me. We share a pigloo and eat all our meals in a special feeding pen built just for us.

---Ziggy

Dear Kind Sponsor of Miss Piggy:

I wanted to tell you about our adoption of M.P. We drove from NM to Ironwood to see the sanctuary. It was more than I had ever imagined. Every volunteer knew every pig's name and history; moreover, they cared about each animal in their charge.

M.P. was somewhat of a loner because of her history, yet, you couldn't meet a sweeter pig. She sat on my husband's lap and accepted back rubs. She is fearful of lie down belly rubs, but will stand quietly for them. I cannot begin to explain how she has enriched our lives. Every morning she waits patiently at the door for breakfast and a stroll around the house. She finds every dry cat morsel that has fallen to the floor, or bit of raisin bread that is not quite toasted enough. She is endearing herself to everyone she meets.

As yet, she has not met her sister piggy, Rose, who is nine. We alternate who is given the run of the yard, so both can grow accustomed to the other. They have seen each other, but we have not allowed a physical meeting, and we won't until M.P. feels, truly secure. I suspect that won't be long as she has already mastered the pet doors and the cabinets, which are now off limits. She is very agile on the wood floors and very speedy in the yard.

When not in her enclosure, she can visit the house or the yard which is 6' chain link. However, most of her time is spent in the house.

If it were not for people like you and Ironwood M.P. would have had a far different life. Thank you for your generosity and love of animals.

Joanne Flaherty



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Ironwood's Northeast Field

