Dearest Supporter,

The Arizona desert is a beautiful but harsh environment. By its very nature it is hot or it is cold. There is very little in between. We just experienced three of the coldest days in over 108 years here at the sanctuary. For most it was something to talk about and to remember to add an extra layer of clothing. For us here at Ironwood it was a constant concern since we have nearly 600 animals, many of whom are old and arthritic. Our facilities are made for winter temperatures in the 40’s and 30’s, but when the temperatures dipped to 17 to 19 degrees for three nights we were on the alert. We were stuffing more and more blankets into shelters, particularly for those who live in a shelter alone then adding heat lamps and heating blankets for those particularly at risk. All of our water was frozen in the morning including that to our houses. Luckily we had enough water in the pools that the ice could be broken up and water released. The automatic waterers and the large black water bowls were out of commission. Once it began to thaw a bit the pipe breaks began to spray water everywhere. All told in the three days we probably had 30 or more broken pipes and some at our Annex as well.

All of our animals survived, I am so happy and relieved to say. We checked every shelter each morning as we stuffed blankets back inside. But what came to my mind over and over was what if. What if the kind lady who called us about Lola, pictured here with me, had not called us to say she had gone to buy an item on Craig’s list and saw this poor starved pig there and could we go get her? She was lying in a dog carrier with no blankets and so starved she could not get up on her own for two to three weeks after we brought her here to Ironwood. What if Boss Hog had been left in Kingman last winter in a small wooden pen with no blankets or shelter? What if the kind lady at the Motel Six in Tucson had not called us to help Pepper who was living in a small pen with little water and had so many rectal tumors that she just had her second surgery to remove them? What if the kind man on a hiking trail in the middle of the desert had not bothered to pick up little Dexter and called to ask if we would take him? And what if King Charles, dumped along the road in Scottsdale on a day reaching 110 degrees, had not been found by kind people who called Linda of Southwest Wildlife who came to the rescue by sending volunteers to pick him up and care for him then contacted us a couple of weeks later to move him to Ironwood?

And what if you did not make it possible for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary to be here to rescue Lola, Boss Hog, Pepper, Dexter, King Charles and so many others?

Sincerely,

Mary Schanz
President & Co-Founder

PS: We all know what the answer to these “what ifs” could have been. But you have made it possible for all these “what ifs” to have had a happy ending. Thank you.
We were contacted about Dexter when a hiker found him at a Phoenix trailhead. A man had started his hike and had gotten about 1 mile out when he noticed that he was being followed, by a baby pig! The pig, Dexter, led the man back to the parking lot where there was a small animal carrier with a bowl of food next to it. As the man observed Dexter he noticed that he was staggering around and seemed very dehydrated. He offered him some water. Dexter drank the water but threw it up immediately. After a few tries he was able to keep the water down.

Now that Dexter was hydrated it was hard to catch him but this caring man stuck around until he could catch him. He then took him home and quickly learned what a friendly pig he had found. Dexter would hang out to help with yard work, even when the lawn mower was going. He also enjoyed staying close to the man and wanted a lot of attention. He would lie on his feet and stay between his legs. Even though this man and his wife fell in love with this baby pig they knew he needed to be in an environment where he could grow and socialize. That’s when they called us.

Dexter quickly won the hearts of the Ironwood staff. This actually isn’t hard for a pig to do, but we knew that Dexter was extra special. He enjoyed mingling with other pigs and following us wherever we went. We barely had to touch him and he would flop over for a belly rub. If he was on the other side of the yard and heard someone coming he would drop whatever he was doing and run over to get some attention. However, Dexter wasn’t yet neutered and was quite full of himself. If you’ve ever been around a boar then you know what this means. Dexter was constantly jumping on us and trying to bite our feet.

One day when Dexter was trying to get attention I noticed a shiny object on his cheek. After further inspection we learned that it was a BB. Poor Dexter had been shot in the face at some point and now the BB had made it’s way out. We haven’t found any more since and he seems to be in good health. We started him on multiple vitamins and vitamin E to help keep him healthy as he grows.

Soon after his arrival Dexter was neutered. He healed well from this surgery and never lost his spunk. It wasn’t hard deciding which field we would put Dexter in. He looks just like our pig Jeannie who resides in our North field. Jeannie is one of our taller, bigger pigs. She isn’t quite as big as a farm hog but much bigger...
Dexter -- Continued

than a potbelly. From the first day we saw Dexter we made the connection and felt that he might grow to be as big as her. We thought it’d be nice if they could hang out with. Every day he tries to lay closer and closer to her. He likes to hang out with her as well as George, another North resident. Lately he has been venturing out and mingling with the other pigs in the field. Dexter has no problem introducing himself and learning the different parts of the field. He has already learned to go into a feeding pen and knows where he can go to sleep. Even though he doesn’t see us as often as he used to Dexter still knows when we are coming and runs over to greet us. He still loves having his belly rubbed and getting attention. It’s great to watch him run around the field. It’s as if he’s showing us that he’s a big kid now. Dexter is still under 6 months old and we expect that he will become a big boy.

We all truly enjoy watching Dexter grow and learn. As his life story starts out sadly we are so glad that he was found and is now safe so that he can have a happy ending. He’s a great reminder of why we do what we do.

---Taryn

Dexter And His Best Friend
Jeannie

to become friends and roam the field together.

Much to our pleasure Dexter was drawn to Jeannie! She was the first pig that he was found trying when we are coming and runs over to greet us. He still loves having his belly rubbed and getting attention. It’s great to watch him run around the field. It’s as if he’s showing us that he’s

Can Anyone Help Us Fix These Chairs?

We have four chairs, like the one pictured here, donated by Mary’s sister a few years ago. These chairs are very comfortable and have received intense use in our Visitors’ Center & Workers’ Lounge over the years and now are in disrepair. Is there anyone in the Tucson/Phoenix area that has the expertise to repair the wicker backs and cushions of these chairs and donate their services? It would be much appreciated. Please contact Ben at 520-631-6015.

Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson, Phoenix and surrounding areas can contact Donna Thomason for tusk and hoof trimming. Donna is an experienced trimmer living on site at Ironwood. Donna provides house calls for pig and goat trims. Please call 520-780-8832 or e-mail hoofandtusk@yahoo.com to set up an appointment.
Become a Member of our Family of Sponsors

Our pigs are eager to share their lives with you. You can provide for a pig’s food, shelter, health care and their share of Sanctuary expenses by making a $30 monthly donation. You will receive current pictures and updates of your pig throughout the year. Please become a member of our family of sponsors!

Remember The Sanctuary In Your Will

Bequests can be a percentage of your estate or a specific dollar amount, a particular stock, bond or mutual fund, real estate, or naming the Sanctuary as remainderman of your estate after providing for family and friends, or stipulating that the Sanctuary will benefit from a portion of the estate if certain beneficiaries predecease the donor.

The Mary C. Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your Will please use both names, the post office address from the back cover and the following tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483. Thank you for your support.

Become A Sanctuary Sustainer

You can become a Sanctuary Sustainer by making a monthly contribution of $5, $10, $25, $100, or any amount you choose which is charged to your credit or debit card each month. The amount, which is determined by you, will be there each month to care for the Piggies. Or if you prefer to make your donation by check, we will be glad to send you a supply of self-addressed return envelopes for your convenience. To sign up, just fill out the form on the enclosed reply envelope and indicate your monthly contribution or go to the Support page of our web site and make your individual or monthly donation by PayPal (no PayPal account required).

Apply For A Sanctuary Credit Card

Share your passion for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary and make donations with your everyday purchases. Just use our custom credit card and 2% of gas and grocery purchases and 1% of all other purchases made with the card will be donated to the Sanctuary. Plus, Ironwood will get a $50 bonus donation when you make your first purchase. Apply today by visiting www.CardLabConnect.com/ironwoodpigsanctuary

You can make secure One-Time or Multiple Monthly Sponsor or Sustainer donations to the Sanctuary with PayPal (no PayPal account required) using your credit card by going to the SUPPORT page of our web site at www.ironwoodpigs.org.
I wanted to let you guys know that we had a good time that day we came. I hope that it helped a little bit. We would definitely like to do it again soon and on a day where we can stay longer.

I have attached some photos of our Jumba. Mary had mentioned maybe using them for a newsletter which you are more than welcome to do if you choose.

Jumba is now 3 years old and a very spoiled member of our family. We got Jumba when he was just 2 months old after researching everything we could online about potbelly pigs. As the new baby he was held all of the time. He loved to be swaddled and rocked to sleep like any other baby. And as paranoid first time piggy parents we were up a couple of times every night to take him out and to make sure he was ok. He was house trained within just a few short weeks and can stay indoors all night and then some and not have an accident. When he wants to go out he either uses the doggy door if the laundry room is open or stands by the glass doors for us to let him out. Jumba has his spot at bedtime in our master bedroom upstairs. He has his bed and blanket that he likes to be tucked into every night right around 8:30pm. He very much seems to need a routine. He will generally go to bed around the same time and wake up to my alarm clock with me at 5am. That is unless it’s cold outside, then he will stay under his blanket a bit longer. And also, to many people’s surprise, he does not like to be dirty at all. In the three years he has never gotten anything but his nose muddy, avoiding wet grass like the plague. If he does get his nose dirty he always gives it a few swishes in the outside water dish before coming indoors. And when he does want back inside he gives the sliding glass doors two taps of his hooves. If we don’t answer within a few seconds he follows that by three taps of his hooves slightly louder. People never actually believe that either until they see it for themselves and about die laughing. He loves to be cuddled with and always gets time with dad on the floor watching TV where Jumba has to be curled up as close as possible to him. Jumba is definitely an indoor piggy and even enjoys taking a ride in the SUV with his own ramp to climb into the back seat which is officially his when he is alone. One of his most memorable trips was probably when he got to go to our daughter’s grade school for a rally. There is a children’s book called “My Principle Kissed A Pig.” and because of a bet that was won in a school-wide competition, Jumba was volunteered to be the lucky pig that was kissed by the school principle. I could go on forever about what a smart, loving, and fun pet he has been for these last three years. Having two girls he is more like having a son rather than a pet. His personality is so unique. We just look forward to many more years of fun.

The Medders (Wendi, Randall, Amaya and McKenzie)
Mojo Jojo and his three sisters came to us in May of 2007. They were four days old when we got a call from the Humane Society asking us to take them since their mom had been killed by a rattlesnake and they had not eaten since 8pm the night before. They forgot to mention they were hogs not pot bellied pigs! The rest is history. Donna caught this picture as he was peeking through the tree at her when she was taking sponsor pictures.

Chicklet & Cheesecake are content here grazing on the remains of the hay we put out for them. Chicklet is a real character. She has never met a stranger she didn’t like. She comes up to everyone who enters her field for a pet and attention. She came to us because the owners had a dog who was a danger to her and she had to be tied up in a room all day while they were away. Not a good thing for sure. She was adopted to a family but was returned because she “has an attitude” at times and they felt she was not safe around their children.

Cheesecake came to us with Corgi. Her owner had passed away and the remaining caregiver was elderly and unable to continue to care for them. The neighbors took care of the pigs and many other animals and helped to place them in good homes. Cheesecake enjoys living in her field with Chicklet, Corgi, and all the others but she is a very shy girl and keeps her distance.

Our Wish List

* Gift Card to Fry’s, Home Depot, Lowes, Office Max, Office Depot, Walgreens, Target, or PetsMart are an easy way to give.
* The above gift cards can be purchased on-line
* VISA gift cards that can be used anywhere
* Postage Stamps (44, 28, 17 cents)
* Used Blankets and Sheets are always welcome
* Antacid
* Veggie Laxative
* Glucosamine Chondroitin
* Cranberry capsules 2000 mg preferred
* Large or Giant Igloo Shelters
* Stool Softener Docusate Sodium 100mg
* Flax Seed Capsules
  Best value is from Puritan’s Pride
* Utility Knives
* Benefiber Powder - Unflavored
  (NOT Metamucil)

Ironwood’s Facebook and Blog

Taryn, one of our resident staff, maintains our Facebook page with frequent updates. Our Facebook page is at: http://www.facebook.com/IronwoodPigSanctuary. She also updates our Blog less frequently. Our Blog page is at: http://ironwoodpigs.blogspot.com/. We have over 1000 supporters who have signed on to our Facebook page to receive almost daily updates on the happenings at Ironwood thanks to Taryn.
Sponsor a Pig

I’m the new kid on the block and still have a lot of growing to do. A sponsor could help buy my special youth food (and lots of yummy treats!) If you’ll be my sponsor, I’ll be your best friend!

My friend Mickey had to move out of our field and I’m feeling rather lonely. I’m looking for a new friend. I can be sort of moody sometimes, so I need someone that can put up with me being kinda crabby. If I had a sponsor, I’d be in a better mood!

I’m a proud member of AARP (Arizona’s Association of Retired Pigs) and would love to spend my golden years with a sponsor. My best friend Sasha has one and she says it has really given her a sense of security to know she’s being taken care of. I too want to know how that feels.

I was named after one of Santa’s reindeer…go figure! Anyway, I’ve had some extra medical bills pile up since I got here and need some help paying that off. A sponsor would be really awesome!

My previous owner named me after Ozzy Osbourne but don’t hold that against me! I still deserve to have a sponsor and really, really want one. I promise that I’m a nice boy and watch my language!

I’m a very self confident gal and pretty much go wherever I want and do whatever I want. I have always been independent but am now realizing that it’s time to take on a partner in the form of a sponsor. I’ve been on my own too long, so what do you say? Could it be you?

I’m the new kid on the block and still have a lot of growing to do. A sponsor could help buy my special youth food (and lots of yummy treats!) If you’ll be my sponsor, I’ll be your best friend!
I’ve been around Ironwood for quite a while and had a couple of short-term sponsors in the past. I’m now ready to make a commitment if anyone is willing to take a chance in a relationship with me.

Can you believe that I was dumped out in the road with a broken leg! Thank goodness someone cared enough to call Ironwood and get me some help. I’m still in recovery and could use some support…please!

---Donna

I’ve been around Ironwood for quite a while and had a couple of short-term sponsors in the past. I’m now ready to make a commitment if anyone is willing to take a chance in a relationship with me.

JOIN OUR FAMILY OF SPONSORS

These pigs along with Missy (pictured here with me) are just a few still in need of a sponsor. Please take the time to read what they have to say and choose one that appeals to you or I can pick one for you. You can support the needs of your pig with a monthly $30 tax deductible donation. In exchange, you’ll get pictures of your pig along with their story as well as updates a few times throughout the year. Thanks for your support!

---Donna

www.ironwoodpigs.org
ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com
Dr. Barbara Page from the Adobe Veterinary Center in Tucson, AZ is the regular veterinarian for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. In addition to monthly clinic days for specialty surgeries and dentals as well as seeing pigs in the clinic at other times for immediate problems, she comes out to do a variety of examinations and procedures on our pigs once each month. Mary keeps a list of pigs that need to be seen and what their symptoms are. We must hurry with our regular daily chores so that we’ll be ready to break away when Dr. Page arrives and can begin making the rounds.

To give you an idea of what one of these days entails, here is a description of a recent visit on January 17th. Dr. Page and her veterinary technician Dana arrived at 11:00 that morning. Ben, Mary and I led them over to Buttercup, one of our hogs, then called Mike and Bobby to come assist. Buttercup has had chronic problems with cracking in one of her front hooves. It gives her a lot of pain making it difficult to walk or even stand. Because it is painful, Buttercup would not allow us to work on it. When one of our pot bellies needs work done on its feet, we will just roll them onto their back and straddle them to hold them in place while we work. Not so easy with a 550-pound hog! Dr. Page had to give her a sedative injection and even that was not an easy task.

Being careful not to overdose the sedative, only a small amount was given to begin with. Once Buttercup was drowsy we maneuvered her over beside the fence where we needed her positioned, waited for her to lie down and prayed that she would lay on the correct side so the “bad foot” would be exposed. A second injection was given and soon Buttercup was snoozing in almost the desired position. A little pushing and shoving here and there and soon she was in place. We then had to put ropes around her feet and brace those around fence posts and put a person on each rope as backup in case Buttercup began to awake. Dr. Page then set to work on the hoof. She trimmed a huge callus off the heel bulb then used a variety of tools to scrape, clean and file the infected area which went up into the hoof wall. During this procedure Buttercup let us know when she was ready for a third sedative, all of
which contained a painkiller as well. Dr. Page then continued by packing the cracked hoof with a salve that will draw out the infection then wrapped it all in layers. Last it was sealed with Kopertox for waterproofing. Buttercup was left resting comfortably with Bobby staying behind to watch over her while Mike returned to watering the fields and the rest of us moved on to the next pig.

Fiona had a swollen teat that we were worried about. Dr. Page examined her and concluded that it was just a blocked duct with no infection. It was suggested that we continue to monitor it for any changes, but that it should be okay and dissipate on its own. That was an easy one!

Then on to Govinda who sits around constantly twisting and chewing and maneuvering his mouth as if there was something in there that shouldn’t be. And of course he was not doing it when we went out to his field! We waited and watched for a few minutes but….nothing. Dr. Page suggested that on our own, we should come out, get him rolled onto his back and check inside his mouth for debris, rotten teeth, bad smell, etc. If any of that is present, then schedule him for a dental. Now on to the next pig.

Hauling a wagon loaded with medical supplies, we moved through different fields to the opposite side of the sanctuary to see Tina. A call over the radio brought Mike and Taryn to assist this time. Tina has had issues with her eyes being very red and acting as if she were blind. So as not to make anything easy, Tina was not in her regular shelter. We spread out and began peeking in all the shelters to find her. Fortunately she was discovered sleeping in a shelter inside a pen so we all moved in, closed the gate then woke her up. We maneuvered Tina into a corner where Dr. Page attempted to examine her eyes. When that didn’t work out so well, Mike picked Tina up, sat on the shelter and held her up leaning against his legs while the exam took place. Her pupils were fully dilated in full sun which indicates blindness. The redness that we had been seeing was the sclera, exposed because Tina is cross-eyed. Dr. Page thought it would be an interesting case for the ophthalmologist and will schedule an appointment with her for a later date.

In the neighboring field we began hunting for Claudia. Taryn found her in a shelter and got her out. Claudia is one of my favorites in the East Field, so I gave her a good back scratching while Dr. Page looked at a strangely shaped growth on the inside of a back leg. It turned out to be an elongated tumor, probably benign, that needs to be removed. That is a procedure that can be done here at the sanctuary rather than having to take Claudia to the clinic. It cannot be performed today since she will need to go without food and water before undergoing anesthesia. We will schedule that to do during Dr. Page’s monthly visit in February.

The next stop was to see Rudy, recently moved here from our Annex. He had a growth on the underside of his foot causing him problems. After an exam, Dr. Page came to the conclusion that it is a benign nodule from a previous injury or bruise. She measured it and said we will need to do the same on a
Monthly Vet Visits Continued

weekly basis for six weeks. If there is any increase at all, it will need to be removed and biopsied. Being over here in a smaller area, walking on a softer surface and resting more has allowed the growth to heal and it may now decrease in size on its own. Another monitor, wait and see what happens situation.

After finishing with Rudy, Dr. Page glanced at Rudy’s best friend, Arnold, who was sleeping next to him throughout the entire exam and noticed a bandage around his leg. She asked why we had done that and after explaining that the old guy was rubbing his leg raw while trying to get up, she proceeded to tell us of a different way to wrap his foot that would be more comfortable for him. She drew a diagram for us and we put that on the growing list of things to do on another day.

Pulling our wagon over to the barn, we went to see Toby who had been in for surgery earlier in the month with a urinary tract blockage and a ruptured bladder. A catheter had been installed so that urine could be released through the tube. Dr. Page examined Toby then removed his catheter. Except for a little discharge around the hole where the catheter entered, Toby was found to be in good shape and recovering well from his surgery.

Next on the agenda was a sick chicken. Yes, I said a chicken! Charmin, who came in with an elderly pig named Pepper, had not been feeling well or eating well. Dr. Page found an elevated temperature, normal urine, good color but underweight. After prescribing oral antibiotics for Charmin, we went back to the pigs. Charmin’s friend, Pepper, had several horrible rectal tumors when she arrived at Ironwood. Dr. Page surgically removed those at that time. Now they seem to be coming back. A brief exam and it was decided that those need to be removed as soon as possible. The surgery was scheduled for the next day.

Clyde had not been eating well for quite a while. Dr. Page had Mike roll the pig onto his back then took a blood sample to be sent to the lab to check for problems, particularly with his kidney and liver. Clyde was very stingy with his blood and really made Dr. Page work to get a proper sample! While on his back, Clyde had his gut palpated which was normal. A quick look in his mouth discovered a loose tooth and the need for a dental procedure to clean and possibly pull others. That alone could be the reason Clyde was not
Dr. Page provided detailed instructions as to what she was doing so that if we run across that again with another pig, we’ll be able to handle it on our own immediately.

Almost done….lastly we go to see Karma, a recently acquired young white female that has already made two trips to the clinic to be seen for ulcers in her eyes as well as skin problems. We had been using coconut oil on her flaky ears and that had improved. However, the redness of her skin had shown no progress. Dr. Page recommended three fish oil capsules a day as well as another injection of Ivermectin. (We all groaned at that one because Karma screams like a banshee when getting a shot!) She also suggested cleaning her ears with an ear mite solution just to cover all our bases.

It was now 4:00 in the afternoon and we had reached the end of the list of sanctuary pigs (and chickens). I live on site with my own animals and had an appointment with Dr. Page to have my two goats’ horns trimmed. We immediately moved on to Emmylou and Dale Jr. and began the hour-long procedure of sedating the goats and cutting the horns. The vet clinic has been great about letting the sanctuary and me split the call fee which helps both of us. On other occasions neighbors have brought their animals to the sanctuary for appointments following the pig rounds. This saves time and travel for Dr. Page while saving money for the sanctuary and other animal owners. Once, a neighbor walked his horse over to have an abscess lanced. That same day another neighbor brought three cows to be vaccinated. On another visit, a neighbor walked her goat on a leash to the sanctuary to be seen by the vet. There is always something interesting happening during Dr. Page’s visits. We learn new things every time and are extremely lucky to have her as our vet.

Thank you, Dr. Page, Dana, and the Adobe Veterinary Center!

---Donna
Dear Ironwood and Friends,

Thank you for continuing to send me your newsletter even though I’ve been unable to contribute for some time.

It touches my heart to see the piggy’s sweet faces after all the hardships they’ve suffered.

As I stumble forward to rebuild my life please accept this humble donation in the holiday spirit.

You are always in my prayers.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Linda Snyder
Thank you so much for all your packages! We rely so much on you for items on our wish list which we update every issue based upon our stock on hand and our need.

Shipping large parcels to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary can be expensive, so it pays to plan ahead. Generally businesses have lower rates, so you might consider ordering from a vendor and having them ship directly to the Sanctuary. For your shipping I have done some research which is not exhaustive, so it pays to check rates before trying to ship your parcel, particularly if it is large or heavy. In general, for parcels that are 20 inches on each side or less you can ship by either US Postal Service, FedEx, or UPS. I think US Postal Service is slightly cheaper. And yes we can receive parcels mailed to our PO Box. For parcels larger than 20 inches on a side the US Post Office rates increase dramatically, so it is better to ship by either FedEx or UPS. It pays to check rates before shipping larger heavier parcels. Our shipping address for FedEx and UPS only is the following (We are located in a remote area and do NOT receive regular mail at the Sanctuary, so please do NOT use this address for regular mail - just UPS or FedEx - thank you):

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary
34656 E Crystal Visions Rd
Marana, AZ  85658

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is dedicated to eliminating the suffering of pot-bellied pigs by promoting spaying and neutering, assisting owners and other 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.
* The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible.

SHIPPING INFORMATION

This past February we had three of the coldest nights in 108 years. We had many broken pipes and when we dumped the ice out of the water pools and bowls it lingered for days since the daytime temperatures were so cold. I know many of you have more severe conditions, but we are not used to these cold temperatures.
IRA N WOOD P I G S A N C T U A R Y  N E W S

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Chicklet
Cheesecake