

# IRONWOOD

A black pig with a slightly scruffy coat is standing in a dirt enclosure. The pig has small, upright ears and is looking directly at the camera. Its snout is dark and appears to have some straw or dirt on it. The ground is a mix of dirt and dry straw bedding. The background is slightly out of focus, showing more of the enclosure.

ISSUE  
NO. 17

AUGUST  
2006

**Missy**

## PIG SANCTUARY

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

August 1, 2006

Dear Supporters,

I have decided to devote this letter to quotes from others who run sanctuaries or have written books, which express my views much more eloquently than I.

"Christopher Hogwood knew how to relish the juicy savor of his fragrant, abundant, sweet, green world. To show us this would have been gift enough. But he showed us another truth as well. That a pig did not become bacon but lived fourteen years, pampered and adored till the day he died peacefully in his sleep—that's proof that we need not "be practical" all the time. We can choose a new way. We have the power to transform a story of sorrow into a story of healing. We can choose life over death. We can let love lead us home." Sy Montgomery, the good good pig

"Science has determined that the pig is second only to primates in intelligence. Current religious doctrine speaks of animals being gifted with spirits similar to man, and laws have begun to speak about abuse to "sentient" beings. What does it all mean to us who operate sanctuaries? It means more efforts by the community to reduce abuse and neglect. It means change." Peggy Couey, Shepherd's Green Sanctuary

"Amongst the billions of humans who consider pigs as sub-creatures, fit only for a meal, walks a small group of people who call themselves pig lovers. We, quite simply, purport to love pigs. We consider pigs to be intelligent, social, sentient beings. And many of us consider them to be our equal as we walk this planet together simply trying to do the best we can in the short time we all have." Richard Hoyle, The Pig Preserve

"There are few things in life that I am more grateful for than the opportunity to be in the company of the non-human Animal kingdom on a daily basis. Working in their midst affords me the unique opportunity of seeing them as they really are. And what I see are some of the most profound offerings of friendship and compassion that I can only hope to know and offer in my own life." Lynn, Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc.

Sincerely,

*Mary Schanz*

Mary C. Schanz

P.S. These views reflect our views, and we hope with your help and support we can continue to offer the hundreds of pigs who share our lives a life of dignity and sanctuary.



Elvis

Wilma

# Me and Mini Me

**J**ack Sprat could eat no fat and his wife could eat no lean. One could say that about our new fast friends Biff and Miss Piggy. When one thinks of pigs coming to Ironwood that have lived alone all of their lives, we like to think they will soon have friends of their own kind and settle



**Biff Miss Piggy**



**Ebony Charlotte**

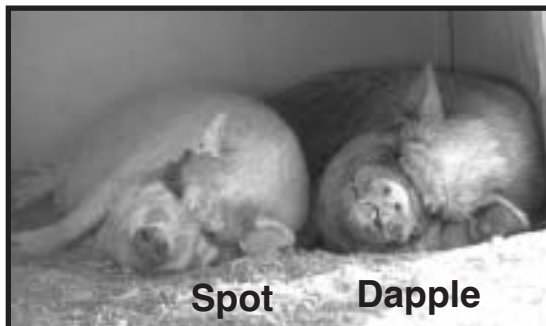
into a peaceful contented life here at Ironwood. This is a success story indeed. Little Biff has been with us well over a year and when we completed our Phase III Assisted Living Field, in Honor of Kathleen Schilling, we put him in that field with six other girls. After a number



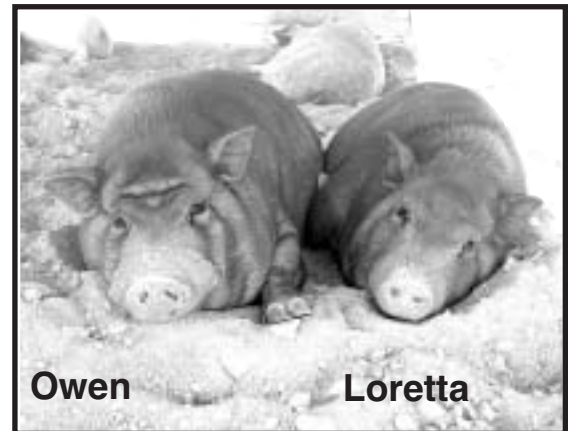
of fights with several of the girls he found he was too small to push any of them around and he retreated to an igloo of his own. Then in March of this year we brought big Miss Piggy to Ironwood and since she was so obese and fat blind, we put her in

Phase III where we felt she would be safe. Once again Biff attempted to be boss but she hardly noticed his attempts and soon they were seen wallowing together on a regular basis. Dr. Page walked through on her rounds recently and when I pointed them out she laughed and said Me and Mini Me. When bonds like this are formed between pigs here at Ironwood that often have had little contact with any other living being, it makes all our hard work worth it.

There are many such unions here at our sanctuary with pigs that have come from divergent backgrounds.



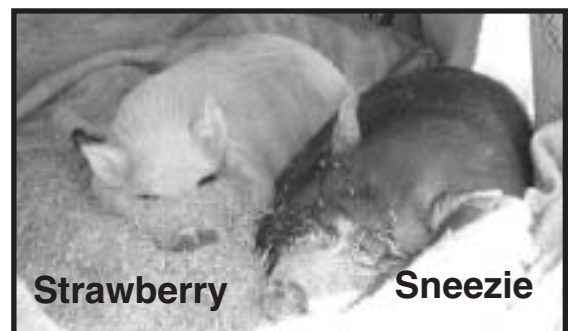
**Spot Dapple**



**Owen Loretta**



**Bubba Norman**



**Strawberry Sneezie**

# Remember These Piggies?

**H**ere are **Wilma** and **Betty** in their new home with their new friends Billy and the dogs. Wilma and Betty had been returned to us from their adopted home due to a serious illness in the family.



**Dynamite** was adopted to a great home with his very own veterinarian, Dr. Page. So not only does he have his own doc, he also gained a new friend, one of Dr. Page's older pigs and he have become good friends.



**Tinkerbelle** was rescued by one of our supporters when she went to her neighbor's house to return a horse that was loose. She was very malnourished, had a prolapsed vulva, and lived in a tiny pen that was nothing but mud. Pat paid all her vet bills and was going to take her back but



said if she could find a very special home, that would be ok with her. Well, Tink found a home that could not be more special. It is with Donna Norton. What a lucky little pig.

**Nestor** came in to us and soon



**Nestor**

went home to join Napoleon and the kitty cats.

Many others that we have featured in our newsletters have found good homes as well. Sandy and Ringo, John Paul Jones, Evelyn and Sonny, Snickers and Eve, Habibi and Little Pete.

Most recently these two little girls



went home. The boys, who came



with them, are neutered and waiting for a home of their own as well.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to extend a big thank you to Donna Scoggin. Donna adopted five pigs from us in the past. More recently she is fostering five pigs; **Barney, Sally, Socks, No Socks** and **Little Boy**. This was a family of pigs we had been involved with

a year ago when we heard they were breeding and in danger of soon being out of control. We neutered the males and lutealized the females and returned them to the owners. Later the owners called us to take them back since the property was being sold. We found that one baby boy was gone, we suspect he died, but the others were well so we scrambled to find a place for them. The parents are old and the babies,

now about 1 1/2 years old, are wild so we had little possibility of adopting them. With help from us with fencing, Donna and her son Justin agreed to take them. We are so grateful since the owner told us he had tried everywhere and the only other option for them was to send them to the prison for food. They now have a wonderful home and the babies run and jump in the swimming pools and have the life they deserve.



**Twin**

### COVER

Missy came to us, along with her friends Cinder and Piglet, in May of 2002. Missy and Cinder were born at Pigs\*A\*Lot when we were volunteering there and I was there when they went home to their new owner. She had another baby named Piglet who had wandered into her yard and she wanted a companion for him. However about 18 months after adopting them she called Ironwood and asked that we take all three of her pigs. Missy and Cinder are very shy but Piglet is very well socialized. Missy and her friends hang close together and are very settled with us at Ironwood.



# Pigs And Other Pets

**M**y name is Donna and I lived and worked at the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary for over four years. I already owned two pigs, Priscilla and Percy, that I adopted from Pigs\*A\*Lot six years ago. When I moved away from the sanctuary I adopted five pigs (Navajo, Tai San, Gorby, Janie and Precious) to take with me. A couple of months later I took in one more pig named Marilyn from a friend who could no longer keep her. So now I have eight pigs that I love dearly.

My husband gave me two adorable Norwegian dwarf goats for my birthday this past spring. Dale Jr. and Emmy Lou live in the field with the pigs and share the barn with them. They are full size at barely 13 inches from head to toe. One of their favorite pastimes is riding on the pigs' backs. It's really a sight to see



**Emmy Lou on Navajo**

when Emmy Lou is jumping from Navajo's back to Janie's then over to Marilyn. Dale Jr. is not as

coordinated and is usually happy if he can stay balanced on one pig. The pigs don't seem to mind now that they have gotten used to it. Navajo, being the most tolerant of my pigs, gives more piggyback rides than the others. He's even had both goats on him at once.



Janie eats quickly and steals the other pigs' food so she has to eat in the chicken yard by herself to give everyone time to finish eating. After her evening meal, she likes to lie down in the shade while she waits to come out. The chickens walk up and down her side scratching and pecking. It must feel wonderful because Janie just moans and groans in pleasure. She loves getting her daily chicken massage.

Many of you that have visited the sanctuary in the past know my dog Aussie. She is wonderful with the pigs and I would trust her with them anytime. Being a heeler mix, my new dog, Darcy, had to learn that it was not okay to chase

and herd the pigs and goats. She does fine with them now, but I never allow her to be in the field without me. Both dogs come in while I'm caring for the pigs, cleaning the field and pools or just visiting with all the animals. It's great to be able to spend time with all my animals at once.

If you have pot bellied pigs and other pets, always be cautious when putting them together. Observing their behavior and interactions with one another is the best way to understand their relationship. Knowing the level of tolerance they have for each other will let you know whether your animals can share the same space all the time or if they should only be together when you are with them. Making a safe environment for all your animals may mean having separate facilities.



**Aussie, Donna, Precious**

# Ways to Support Your Sanctuary

## Use Your Credit or Debit Card to Make a Monthly Donation

Almost every day the sanctuary receives calls about pigs needing our help and we must always ask the question, "where will the money come from to help this one?" The answer is: from people like you who care and want to make a difference.

By joining as a sanctuary sustainer, a

monthly contribution, be it \$5, \$10, \$25 or \$100, will be charged to your credit card. The amount, which is determined by you, will be there each month to care for the animals. To sign up, just fill out the form on the enclosed reply envelope and indicate your monthly contribution.

Thank You for caring.

## Donate by PayPal

You can also make a donation electronically by logging on to our website at [www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org](http://www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org) and paying by PayPal. In case you are not familiar with PayPal they are the preferred method of paying for goods on ebay.

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



**eScrip**

## Donating Money the Easy Way!

Every time you make a purchase from an eScrip member merchant, the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary will receive a donation from the merchant up to 5% of your purchase.

Please sign up by visiting [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com), call us at (520) 575-8469 or write to us 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!

## Put Us In Your Will

Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to the 440 Pot Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated. Consider putting the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary in your WILL so that your support can continue after you are gone. We can accept appreciated stock, real estate, or other assets. Please check with your financial adviser.

# --- Would You Be

Amos  
 Arnie  
 Arnold  
 Betsy  
 Black-



Socks  
 Blossom  
 Bonita  
 Bubbles  
 Buttercup



Bradley  
 Chester  
 Chi



Chrissy  
 Curley  
 Daley

Edith  
 Edwin  
 Egee

Ernest  
 Ferdy  
 Gates  
 George



Buddy

Gilbert



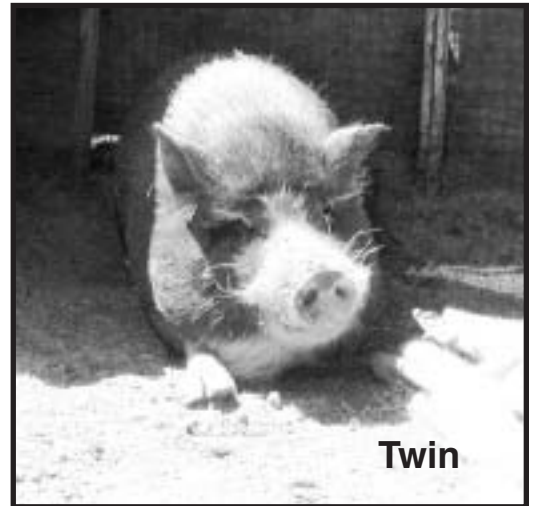
Tom



Jeannie

Gracie  
 Harriet  
 Hart  
 Hondie  
 Hunter  
 Irma  
 Jolee  
 Jumper  
 Larry  
 Latasha

Lennie  
 Lilly  
 Little'Un  
 Louie  
 Lucy  
 Mae  
 Major  
 Mai Ly



Twin

## SPONSOR ONE

Owners have abandoned  
 the Ironwood Pig San  
 loving animals tha  
 would love to have a  
 updates and pictures  
 your sponsorship. A  
 month will cover a  
 including food and  
 just a few of the pigs  
 one of them or send  
 female, young, old,  
 I'll send you a pic  
 info

Thank you for m  
 Je

Mamacita  
 Margaret



# My Sponsor? ---

Melba  
Mo



Harold

MoJo JoJo

Rosie

Ompa  
Otis

Pepe  
Pete  
Pinkie  
Popeye  
Princess  
Profit  
Rosanne

Tiffany  
Verdell



Cid

Wallace

Waylon  
White  
Wilbur  
Zena

And There  
are Many  
More...



Margarita

Scout  
Shannon  
Shelby  
Shelton  
Shirley  
Sneezy  
Socks  
Spike  
Squiggy



Jethro

## ME OF OUR SWEET PIGS!

owned many of the pigs at sanctuary. Most of these are at miss their home and sponsor. I will send you s of your pig throughout a contribution of \$30 a all your pig's expenses health care. Listed are needing parents. Choose me a description (male, special needs, etc.) and ture with background rmation.

aking a difference!  
annie

Morgan  
Mr. Pigg



# It's Still Hot Out There!

**H**ere in Arizona it will be hot until the end of September and beyond. Other areas of the country are not as hot but the sun on a clear day can be hot to a black pig most anywhere. So make sure you provide plenty of shade and water for your pigs as well as your other critters.



## Ironwood's Web Site

Check out our revised web site! Cathy Kost from Belly Draggers is now our web master and is doing a great job designing our site. She has updated the site with our latest newsletters and has added color pictures of our pigs and the sanctuary! We are planning on having a .pdf file of each of our newsletters on the site so you can see how we have grown over the years. Check us out at:

[www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org](http://www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org)

For your convenience you can also go to our web site and make donations via PayPal using your credit card.

## Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson, Phoenix and surrounding areas can contact Donna Norton for tusk and hoof trimming. Donna is an experienced trimmer, having lived onsite at Ironwood for over four years. Donna and her husband, Justin, provide weekend house calls for pig and goat trims. Please call **520-682-4686** or e-mail at [hoofandtusk@yahoo.com](mailto:hoofandtusk@yahoo.com) to set up an appointment.



**Donna Trimming Navajo,  
One of Her Pigs**



**Petuna Alex**

# Meet Our Pigs

**E**ach issue I like to introduce you to some of our new pigs and give you their stories. These are some of our new pigs this quarter, but they will be making Ironwood their permanent home, unlike many of the others we have adopted.

**Wilma** is a young girl with a traumatic background. The owner's father brought Wilma to her last Dec. from a Homeland Security raid in which there were many animals that had to be confiscated. We were told she was very skinny, but she soon thrived and became a happy,



healthy pig. But just weeks after they got her she was attacked by their neighbor's pit bull and required stitches and several trips to their vet. She became an extremely frightened pig and would no longer allow anyone to approach and screams when one merely goes near her. She was released to us and we are beginning to see a very favorable change in Wilma. She is very lame, probably a result of her

injuries, but she is now beginning to take treats from our hands, and when we put her in the exercise field with others, who will soon be a new herd of special needs pigs, she is relaxed and comfortable and I am sure we will soon see her making new friends.

**Malcolm** came to us because of a divorce and move. This is the most common reason we get calls



to take pigs to our sanctuary. Malcolm was passed along to the previous owners when his first family moved away and left him. He had a nice home and lived inside in his own comfy kennel at night. Therefore, he is having a bit of a time making his way with us. Sometimes he will be very friendly and want our affection and other times he is mad and will come after us with determined aggression. It is often difficult for our new pigs to make the adjustment to their new surroundings. He is becoming part of the same herd Wilma will be in and so far he is a bit shy with the other pigs, but I hope with time he will find some new friends.

**Porky** is also with us because of a divorce. He is an old man at 16 1/2 years old. He is one sweet fellow and was clearly well cared for all his life. This is a major change for him since he lived with his family all his life. Porky is fitting in well with the new herd we are forming with all these new special pigs. He just loves the mud and loves to bulldoze large holes with his big snout, so I know he will enjoy the new field with lots of places to bulldoze once it is complete. He is somewhat frightened and confused by all these new voices and smells, but he is beginning to feel more comfortable with us.



Since many of our new arrivals this quarter will not be adopted, we have decided to make a new field for them. We are pleased to say that their early introductions with one another in preparation for going to the new field is going extremely well. ---Mary

# The Needs of Your Pig

**B**efore the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary adopts out a pig we do what we call a yard check where we visit the prospective adopter and check the adequacy of their yard for a pig. This is a very important and serious step for us because we dramatically improve the success of the adoption by ensuring that the yard meets all of the needs of their new arrival.

All of the following items are very important and it is necessary for the adopter to provide all of the following for their pig's home. If you are a pig owner or are thinking of adopting a pig please consider the following minimum standards for your pig.

## Water:

Water is extremely important for the pot bellied pig. Not just for drinking but to help keep the pig cool in hot weather. The pig does not sweat so it is necessary for



them to get their bodies wet in order for the evaporating water to cool them off. The sun can be

very hot to a pot bellied pig even if the weather seems cool.

Drinking water must be in a pan, bowl, tray, etc, that the pig cannot tip over. It is common for a pig to tip over their drinking water in order to roll on the wet ground to cool off. This works once, but what about later when the water has evaporated and there is no water for cooling. So make sure that you have drinking and wallowing water available throughout the entire day. We find that most of our pigs will not use a wallow to cool off when the weather cools off. But there are always some pigs that use a wallow most of the year. Make sure you give your pig the choice if he is interested in cooling off.

## Shade:

Shade goes hand in hand with water to keep your pig comfortable. Shade should be provided throughout the day and in all seasons. Monitor your pig's shade throughout the day to ensure that they always have a shady spot to cool off. Don't forget that morning and afternoon sun may shine under a shade area that you might think is adequate. Our sun here in Arizona can be intense even at 9 in the morning.

One of the most important warnings is that it is essential that your new pig learn where the water and shade are in your yard.

We have an exercise yard where we put pigs from our pens for an hour or so every day to give them



more space in order to meet other pigs through the safety of fencing and to stretch their legs. We have two water areas in the yard with drinking water, a wallow, a wading pool with water and shade in each one. One new arrival did not know where the water was and was trying desperately to get to water in the adjacent field. We noticed this while monitoring the new arrival and quickly directed her to one of the wallows. She could have died 30 feet from water that would have saved her life.

## Shelter:

Pigs love their shelters. They like them dark during the day and we find many a pig in a hot shelter when they could be outside under a tree in warm weather. They also need shelter from the elements, particularly the cold. In cold weather we provide our pigs with bedding hay and blankets in their shelters, along with a carpet door to keep out the cold wind and rain. We also coat the roofs of our

shelters with a special white paint that is used to reduce the



temperature of the roof in the summer. We suggested to one pig owner that he should have a shelter for his pig when it was in the yard during the day. The owner thought that bringing the pig in every night was sufficient. But he decided to take our advice and got a shelter for his pig. That pig loved the shelter and used it all of the time, to the surprise of the owner.

## Secure Fencing:

It is important to make sure that your pig is not able to get out of your yard or his enclosure if it is smaller than your yard. They are very strong and are able to push under many chain-link and other types of fences. A good fence protects your pig from getting lost, getting hurt by automobiles and other hazards and being attacked by neighborhood dogs or even your dog if your pig breaks through the fencing into your yard



where your dogs are. We use 6-foot chain-link fences to enclose all of our pig areas but use 9-gauge wire instead of the common 11.5-gauge and a bottom rail as well as the common top rail. We also use hog panel and T-poles for our fencing within the 6-foot chain-link perimeter fence that works very well.

## Separation From Dogs:

Dogs and pigs don't always mix well. We have heard many stories about pigs and dogs getting along peacefully for years and then suddenly when the owners are away the dog attacks the pig. We don't know why this happens except that our vet thinks that for some reason the pig might get scared or stuck and squeal, which often excites the dog to attack the pig. We absolutely require that the owner have adequate separation between their pig and any dogs. Even small dogs have



## Sophie's Ears Are a Mess

been known to attack pigs. The dogs and pigs can be together under the supervision of the owners. On the other hand we have also heard of many dogs and pigs that are the best of friends and sleep and play together.

## Adequate Space:

Your pig must have adequate space. A geriatric pig will not need as much space as a young pig. We have large fields for our pigs but find that most of them stay around the wallows and shade near the feeding areas. But



there are those that travel to the far reaches of the field. You can see their paths where they wander the fence line, I imagine looking at the pristine vegetation beyond the fence. It is hard to put a number on the size of the field except to say it should be as large as possible. We think that 20 feet by 20 feet is the smallest and prefer something around 30 feet by 30 feet for one or two small pigs. We hope that young pigs in a 30-by-30 pen will have the opportunity to get out often under supervision to explore the larger area of the property. We have seen many pigs that have lived in a 5 ft by 10 ft pen all of their lives.

For all of you pig owners, please consider upgrading your pig's living space to the minimum standards listed above. If you already meet the above you are a great owner and give your pig the very best environment.

--- Ben

# These Little Piggies Will Never Go To Market!

**H**ere they are healthy, happy, very active, and adorable. It was Monday, June 5th, that Ben called to tell me The Humane Society of Southern AZ had called him to



4 Days Old

say they had four piglets, four days old whose mother had been killed by a rattlesnake and they had not eaten since 8pm the night before. Could we help? Since we frequently get calls for babies that we don't normally have, we quickly agreed to take them if we could find a foster home to care for them. We would take responsibility to spay and neuter them and find homes for them. Jeannie, our sponsor coordinator,

was working at the sanctuary that day and she said she would love to foster the babies. I sent her off to pick them up and all was well. That is until I got a call from Jeannie the next day. Mary, she said, the babies are doing very well but they have long legs and big ears and curly tails.

giving them to a 4H home. Well, NO that won't work. So MoJo JoJo, Bubbles, Buttercup and Blossom are now part of Ironwood's pot bellied pig sanctuary. They are spayed and neutered and ready for a new home. Anyone with any contacts with farm animal sanctuaries please contact us. We are not a farm animal sanctuary and these babies would love to live at a nice sanctuary with other big pigs like them. Thanks to Jeannie and Kirk



**HOGS!** We never thought to ask the question, are they pot bellied pigs? After talking with the person who released them to the Humane Society we discovered they were indeed domestic hogs.

She suggested we could return them to her and she would handle them in some other way, like

who kept them at their home the first two weeks and saw to it that they got a good start in life.

## A Word on our Wish List

Many of you are accustomed to seeing our wish list and have sent so many things on the list that have helped us to care for the many pigs at the sanctuary. However, these past few months several of you have offered items that we can use but we have not been able to pick them up. Please accept our apologies to those of you who have called us but we have not been able to respond to your offers. Because of being understaffed we simply do not have the time it takes to travel around and collect the items offered to us at this time. Therefore, at least for now, we are limiting our wish list to those few items that can either be mailed to us or that you can deliver. Thank you all for thinking of the sanctuary. Sincerely, Mary

# 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.



Dear Ironwood family, 5/06  
 It's been nearly a year since I left you to return home & we think of you often. I'm sorry we couldn't send more sooner. Thanks again for everything you do!  
Amber



Karen

Grunt

5/13/06

Hello,  
 When I recieved your mailer, I was looking for Joanne the pig. Like I always do I didnt know if she was still around. I had sponsored her for awhile, but then I had to stop. money was tight unfortunately. Anyways, as soon as I saw her picture my heart skipped a beat & I ran in to get my checkbook, so I could sponsor her again. For how long I dont know. I sure hope someday I get the chance to meet her. Please let me know how she has been doing. I still have the pictures you had sent me. One is on my refrigerator - the other is in a frame in my spare room.  
 keep up the good work & Godspeed!  
 Joanne  
 Amber

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# IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS

