

IDEAS IN WOOD

9 Year Anniversary

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Owen

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

May 2010

Dear Supporter,

I would like to dedicate this letter to my husband, Ben. While Donna and myself write most of the articles, do the talking one could say, Ben is the one who makes it happen and gets it out to you. When we began this journey many years ago as volunteers at Pigs*A*Lot, I wanted to help with the animals and he would help with infrastructure since he was the engineer. It was his idea to open a sanctuary of our own, and from the day the land search began he has been the engine that pulled it along.

His ability as an engineer to design and build the sanctuary plus knowing how to acquire all that we needed to make it a viable working sanctuary was invaluable. Housing, generators and banks of batteries, solar, well drillers and water tanks and pressure pumps, plus designing and building of pens and shelters and acres of chain link fencing all were planned, conceived and maintained by him while we all helped to make it happen.

Once the pigs began to arrive, build it and they will come as they say, and they did come, it soon became apparent that money would have to be raised to care for all these critters since our pockets were certainly not that deep. Again he took the lead and the risk of our personal funds to reach beyond the local community to do nationwide mailings and begin to build our support base, which is you. His business sense and ability to see what would have to be done to provide a secure home for all these piggies was so important as we have grown dramatically over these nine years. And finally learning how to put this newsletter together, that comes to you every couple of months to keep you informed about what is happening at Ironwood with all of our pig residents, has been his responsibility as well. We hope you all enjoy our newsletter.

Thank you Ben. We are all here because of you.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz
President & CoFounder

PS: On March 1st Ben had a mitral valve repair done which required open heart surgery. He is recovering well and quickly and in time he will feel better than before the surgery, but these have been stressful and challenging times for us and the staff. I am so thankful to my sister and friend who came to help me and to my competent staff who have worked so hard to keep the sanctuary working so well.



Ben & Mary

Why All The Bread And Peanut Butter?

That's the question we get asked each week when we're at the grocery store stocking up for the Sanctuary. Fifty loaves of bread, 8 large jars of peanut butter, 7 packages of fig newtons, 3 dozen eggs, 8 bottles of cranberry juice, numerous boxes of oatmeal, and the list goes on and on. All of this is for just one week's worth of special meals and medications for our pigs.

Rolling the pills and powders up in a peanut butter sandwich which the pigs consider a real treat is an easy way to make sure they take their meds. Sounds simple



Tressie Making Meds

enough, right? Not so simple in reality when you consider that two people spend one and a half hours each day fixing up 238 individual medications for the pigs! There are pills and powder for joint support, pills for severe arthritis, pills for epilepsy and

urinary tract issues, pills for runny noses and respiratory problems, antibiotics for infections, pain



pills for those recovering from surgeries, pills for liver failure and kidney infections. Also there are all the different vitamins for young and old pigs, vitamins and oils for skin conditions, and herbal remedies for a variety of conditions. Then there are those pigs that won't eat the peanut butter sandwiches. Their pills are tucked inside of fig newtons. Beyond that is Cooper who won't eat the bread or cookie and has to have his pills ground up and mixed in a mash of pig pellets soaked in cranberry juice!

We have two notebooks with the list of pigs and their medications from each of the fields, one for morning meds and another for evening meds. Although most of these pigs will be getting the same meds for the rest of their lives, there are always changes and the book has to be continuously updated.

Herman got in a fight and got a deep cut on his nose. He was on antibiotics for a week. When introduced into a new herd, Peaches got in a fight and had some bad scratches.....add her to the antibiotic list. Twix had surgery and needed to take pain medication for a few days during his recovery. There are 11 pigs suffering from bone infections



Tressie Giving Meds to the Main Field Group

that are on two different medications that go in cycles of two weeks on and two weeks off.



Tim Giving Meds to the Sunset Field

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Continued from page 3

The majority of the medications are given in the mornings as the pigs gather for breakfast. The pigs know who get meds and line up along the fence to get their sandwiches. Some of the pigs eat in special feeding pens and have their meds dropped in their bowls.

In the evenings, someone has to go through all the fields and pens



Tim Giving Evening Meds to Lucy

to hand out the meds that are needed twice daily. The evening meds are more challenging because most of the pigs are already in bed. You have to learn which shelter they sleep in and be ready to go hunting for them if they're not in their usual spot.

As if all the pills and powders weren't enough there are also all the special meals that need to be prepared each morning for pigs for a variety of reasons. Some older pigs are missing most of their teeth and need soft foods such as oatmeal or soaked pellets. Some of the males are on prescription dog food for urinary tract problems. A few get a soy-

based dog food mixed with pig pellets and vegetable oil to add extra calories to their diet. Pinky just quit eating regular pig pellets and needs things like fruit, cereal, boiled eggs or macaroni and



Taryn Making the Morning's Special Meals

cheese to entice him to eat something. Females recovering from spay surgery get oatmeal, apple sauce and fruit. Pepper needs bran and fiber powder mixed with her pellets. Phoebe



Some Special Meals

has to have an oatmeal/pellet mash because everything else makes her throw up. Emily has trouble eating solids and gets a protein shake. And, well, you get the picture!

The containers with all these special meals are each tagged

with the pig's name to enable staff members to easily know who to feed it to. Several pigs get diluted cranberry juice with their morning meal and in the afternoons because of kidney problems, dehydration prevention, or urinary stones.

One of our staff starts one and a half hours earlier than the rest of the crew just to prepare all the special meals and juices and pack them into tubs labeled for each of the field areas. The tubs are already loaded up with the med sandwiches and cookies that were prepared the previous afternoon. Everything is ready to roll bright and early so the feeding routine can get started on time. We don't want to keep the pigs waiting!



Tressie Feeding Cooper His Special Meal

So if you're ever in Tucson in the grocery store and see someone with a shopping cart overflowing with loaves of wheat bread it might just be one of us stocking up for the week! Be sure to stop and ask how the pigs are doing!

--- Donna



March 2010 marked the debut of a new pig-friendly children's picture book: **Granny Gomez & Jigsaw**.

The book tells the story of an adventurous granny who wants a pet. A neighbor boy helpfully leaves a basket containing a baby pig on Granny's porch. Although initially reluctant, Granny takes the pig in, and soon they become the best of friends. She names him Jigsaw after the puzzles they like to do together (when Granny drops a puzzle piece, Jigsaw scoots it back to her). But before long, Jigsaw grows too big for the house. Granny builds him a lovely barn, but then she has another problem: she misses Jigsaw like crazy. Ever resourceful, Granny ultimately finds a satisfying solution.

The seeds for the book were sown when someone gave Deborah a unique gift: an adopted pig named Babe at a farm animal sanctuary. "I didn't know much about pigs before I received the adoption," says Deborah. "But I was able to visit Babe a number of times, and she made a big impression on me. Deborah's website is www.DeborahUnderwoodBooks.com.

Our Wish List

- * Gift Card to Fry's, Home Depot, Lowes, Office Max, Office Depot, Walgreens or Target
- * Used Blankets are Always Welcome
- * Utility Knives
- * Postage Stamps (44, 28, 17 cents)
- * Large or Giant Igloo Shelters or Large Dog Houses
- * Sun Screen SPF 30 or above
- * Mucinex or equivalent
- * Milk Thistle
- * Stool Softener Docusate Sodium 100mg
- * Flax Seed Capsules
Best value is from Puritan's Pride
- * Benefiber Powder or equivalent

FRONT & BACK COVER



Owen was our fifth pig who arrived at Ironwood on June 11, 2001. A couple found him near our home in Tucson in a wash behind their house. They held him for five weeks while trying to find a home for him. He has always been very shy and eats in a feeding pen since the competition with other pigs is a bit too much for him. But he lives with a small herd and he and Loretta became fast friends and have been companions for years now.

Pinto arrived at Ironwood on January 20, 2004 and oddly enough Miss Wanda arrived about a month later. I wonder if that is why they hang out together since they joined us so close to each other. Poor Pinto was abandoned at a home in Catalina and picked up by Animal Control. Several people called us who saw him there and it wasn't long before we brought him to Ironwood. Miss Wanda, now 14, was released to us from a lady whose health was failing.

Sponsor a S



Ben

In a past life I must have been a linebacker. I'm bulked up and proud of it! All you football fans out there could really score with me as your special pig.



Jerry

Since I've been living here they've had me on a diet. So now I need something to happen to perk me up and make me feel special. I think a sponsor will do the trick and help me forget about food and diets for a while!



It's another stories...my which left my Thank goodn made it here an someone to sup



Mr. Pigg

I had a sponsor for several years but because of the tough economy, I am now on my own. I'm hoping that there is someone out there looking for a special young man (well, okay, maybe a middle-aged man).



Rami

My name means 'younger brother' in the Comanche language. I am the smallest male in my herd but I have a big heart that I would like to share with a sponsor.



Sue

I've been field, Ass seems th here wit just doe

Special Pig!



Hopper



Casey



Linus

of those foreclosure family lost their home brother and me homeless. ess for Ironwood! We and now I need that special support me.

This is sort of embarrassing to talk about but my family thought I was a girl and called me Gracie. When I got here the staff quickly renamed me Casey. It really helped build up my damaged self-esteem!

My sister Kelli was in the last newsletter and she got a great sponsor! She is so lucky. Now I am getting my chance. I want one too!



-E

in talking to the others in my assisted Living Phase 5, and it that I am the only one left without a sponsor. Now, that doesn't seem right to me!

JOIN OUR FAMILY OF SPONSORS

As we celebrate our ninth anniversary I think about how much we have changed and grown over the years. We never could have done all of this without our family of sponsors! For a \$30 monthly donation you can

provide for a pig's food, shelter, health care and their share of sanctuary expenses. I will send you a letter and pictures with a history of your pig as well as periodic updates throughout the year. Please join us in helping to support these pigs!

Donna



Gracie & Donna

Ironwood Nine Years Later

In the fall of 2000, after months of searching for land, Ben and I purchased 40 acres of beautiful desert land in Pinal County. We broke ground in early 2001 and began the task of building what was to become the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. We



Ground Breaking 2/01

began building the first eight pens in the spring and by June 10th Claire and Popeye arrived followed by Misty and Tulley on the 11th then Owen and Taylor on



Claire 6/10/01

the 12th. The floodgates had opened and the building continued all summer and into the fall when we completed our first 6-acre field and began releasing the first group of pigs to their new larger area where they could roam freely. Once they were securely enclosed, we started the task of digging thousands of feet of



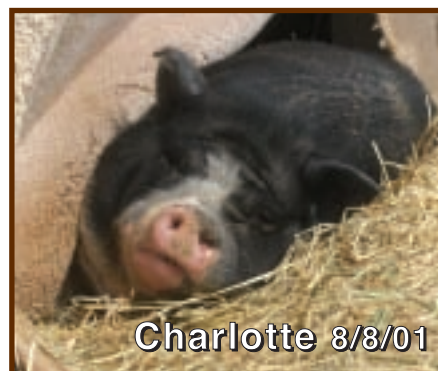
Popeye 6/10/01

trenches for the water lines, building shelters and shades, and the building still continues as we adjust for new pigs, older pigs, rescues, etc.



Building Pens

Pictured here are many of our early pigs who arrived within the first year that we were open. There are so many more not pictured here that have been with us since our early beginnings. All



Charlotte 8/8/01



Sammy 11/25/01

these years they have had a stable home and the bonds they made with each other have been long enjoyed. The sisters Precious and Angel, mother and daughter Georgia and Bobbi, the Baldwin family all five still living with us and so many more who have made good friends and live in small herds remain together.



Franklin 7/9/02

Your support has made these nine years possible and with your help



Miss Saigon 9/14/01



Sweet Pea 8/19/01

they will live out their remaining years as they have these past nine.



Dixie Lee 12/13/01



Joann 11/20/01



Installing Water Lines



Pinkerton 4/9/02

---Mary



Arnold 8/19/01



Betsy, Joann,
Lucky & Elizabeth

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, 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.



Check Out Our Blog

Taryn, one of our staff, has been updating a blog from time to time for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Check it out. The address is: www.ironwoodpigs.blogspot.com

Thank You For All Of Your Support

Remember the Sanctuary in your Will

We have been the recipient of bequests from a number of supporters. These donors felt that they needed their assets during their lifetime, but decided to link themselves forever with the ongoing life of the Sanctuary by making bequests through their estate plans.

Bequests can be a percentage of the estate or a specific dollar amount, a particular stock, bond or mutual fund, real estate, or naming the Sanctuary as remainderman of the 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.

Apply For a Sanctuary Credit Card - Please Try Again!



I apologize for the error in the website address for our personalized credit card. Here is the correct address below - so please try again.

Share your passion for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary and make donations with your everyday purchases. We've partnered with Capital One to launch our new Ironwood credit card, and it will help us care for the 600 pigs at the Sanctuary by doing what you do every day! 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. The card comes with a competitive rate and no annual fee, so sharing your passion—and your support—is easy and automatic. Apply today by visiting www.CardLabConnect.com/ironwoodpigsanctuary. And not only will you be donating to our cause with each purchase you make, you'll be helping to spread the word when people see your unique card.

Become a Sanctuary Sustainer

By joining as a Sanctuary Sustainer, a monthly contribution, be it \$5, \$10, \$25, \$100, or any amount you choose, can be 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. You can also go to the Support page of our web site and make your donation with your credit card using PayPal. 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.

We accept donations with the four shown credit cards for your convenience.



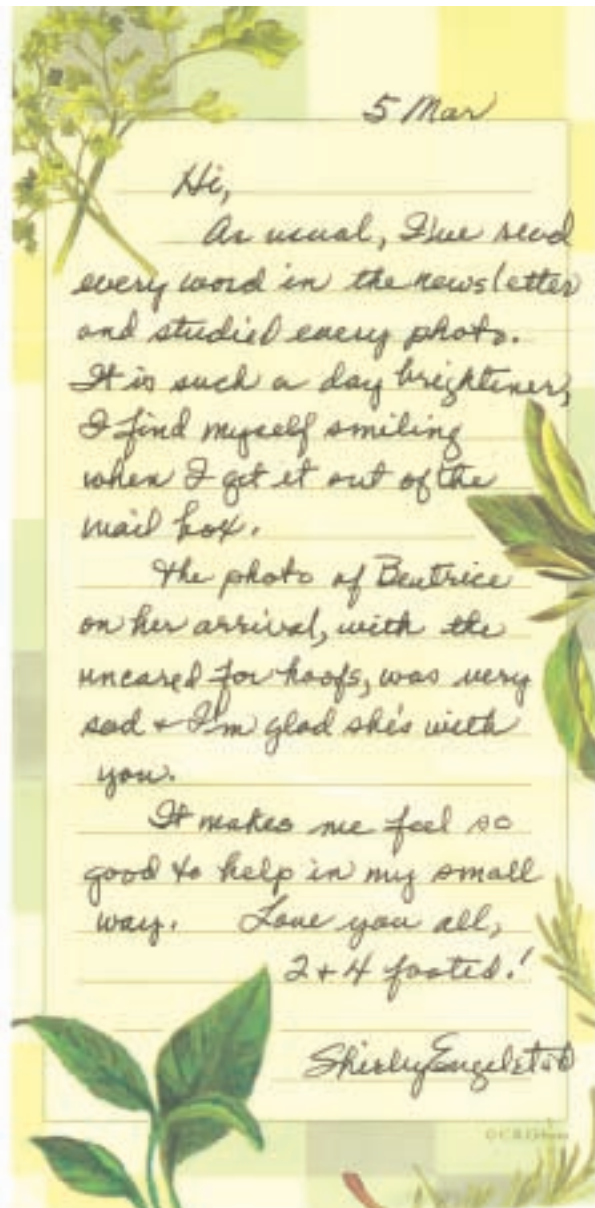
You can make secure One-Time or Sponsor donations to the Sanctuary with PayPal using your credit card by going to the **SUPPORT** page of our web site at www.ironwoodpigs.org.

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.



Hi,

Just thought you may like to see a picture of my pig "Grimly". I got him when he was 6 months old, and have had him now for 20 years! I can't believe he's still around. He's a little arthritic, but he is still eating well and doing pig stuff.

Here's a donation, you guys are doing a great thing helping pigs. Keep up the good work. -- Tracy

To Whom It May Concern,

Enclosed is the amount of two dollars, my contribution to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Enclosed also is postage for the Sanctuary.

I enjoy the newsletter greatly. Donna's "Ironwood Ecosystem" was much appreciated (11-2009) as well as her "Home, Sweet Home!" in the January 2010 issue. I am glad that Ironwood makes room for other animals.

Wishing you many blessings and with warm regards,
Mary Picca

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Pinto

Miss Wanda