

IRONWOOD

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Abby

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

July 2010

Dear Supporter,

Hello again from all of us here at Ironwood. We are in full summer now and the temperatures have reached as high as 110 degrees. This means it is a tense time for us. Wallows and pools must be filled and refilled, older pigs must be watched for overheating and their ability to get into wallows or pools. I have to hire additional help for the summer in order to get the 15 acres of automatic waters, bowls and pools cleaned and filled and wallows filled before it gets too hot. We now start at 5:30 am to get ahead of the heat and a staff member who sets up our special foods is here at 4:00 am. It would be nice if we could just hunker down and do the basic care and wait for the summers here in Arizona to be over. But as you will see from Donna's article, that is not an option since the work is never done.

Hundreds and hundreds of blankets have been brought in and stored and carpets have been taken down and replaced with shade cloth. Many rolls of shade cloth have been used to replace old shades and build new ones. And water has to be hauled from town each day to provide adequate water. Ironwood is a very high-maintenance facility since we are located in the middle of a desert unlike the pigs' natural environment. But they are here in Arizona and we must do all we can to make them comfortable. It is our mission to provide a good home for all the pigs who are with us regardless of why they have come to us. Twix's story in this issue is but one example of the complications we face when we take in a new pig and the expense we must incur to make them well again.

Taking in one more pig is easy, but the follow-through is hard. What are all the medical problems that they bring with them? Which of our fields will they fit into with the least amount of stress and least likely to get into a fight? What are the emotional issues we will need to deal with when a pig has left a home where it was loved and now feels abandoned? These are all difficult questions with no easy answers and yet each of these pigs we take has no other option. So with your help we give them a life-long caring home.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz
President & CoFounder

PS Knowing how hard we struggle to do the best we can for all these homeless animals and how you, our supporters through sacrifices of your own, make it possible for us to provide for them, I am each day more frustrated and angered by those who continue to breed them. There is no excuse.



Pearl & Mary

Taking Care of Business

When I tell people what I do for a living many of them say, “Oh, it must be fun taking care of the pigs!” They envision an easy day of tossing out some food for them, maybe spraying them with water as you fill a wallow then spending the rest of the day giving belly rubs and ear scratches. Well let me tell you, there is so much more going on behind the scenes here!

In the May newsletter we told you about the extensive task of just preparing all the medications and special meals for the pigs each day. Well here is the rest of the story.

The day begins with the staff gathering to decide who will feed which of the 19 fields as well as



Jill Feeding Main Field

the pigs living in the pens and in the yards behind the houses. Off they go in different directions with tubs filled with meds and meals. Parts of the fields are easy with the pigs eating in troughs but then there are always pigs everywhere that need to go in



April Putting Out Hay

special feeding pens for various reasons (soft food, more food, less food, food with meds or oil, etc.). It takes time (and sometimes lots of patience!) to get these pigs into their pens then going back to let them out afterwards.

Hay is spread throughout the fields to give the pigs something to graze on. Sometimes pigs are given injections while they're eating which is easier than trying to find and/or catch them later. Some of the elderly or ailing pigs have to be hand-fed. Several pigs get diluted juice with their meals. All of the group and individualized feeding can take 5 staff 2-3 hours each morning. Afterwards two people do a “walk around” on opposite sides of the property, going through each field with a checklist to make sure that all the pigs were let out of the individual feeding pens.

After a short break the staff then heads out to scrub and fill wading pools, water bowls and mud wallows. Not too long of a job in the winter but with the 100+

summer temperatures there are a lot more of those to deal with. Watering can take 5 or 6 people up to 3-4 hours.

During the summers our water well cannot pump enough water to keep up with the demand so Ben must make trips to town with the water truck to replenish the water tanks.



Beth Cleans a Wading Pool

Okay, that takes care of the basics; food and water. Now all the other work begins!

Medical rounds! Some days the list is short and other days, holy cow! Missy's surgical incision needs to be cleaned, give Pete a shot of Baytril, check Pinky's temperature, clean Bilbo's goopy eye, flush Peaches' abscess, lance the abscess on Alf, give Reggie Benadryl for his ant bites, listen to Emily's lungs to monitor her congestion, give Rudy a shot of

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Metoclopramide an hour before he can eat, rewrap the bandage on Sylvia's foot, put sunscreen on Oliver and Bob, apply Swat to Francis' face to keep the flies out of the sore where he rubbed it too hard and, oh my gosh, the list goes on! Most of these jobs require two people, sometimes 3 or 4 depending on how uncooperative the pig is.



Mary With Help From Staff Cleans Squeaky's Infected Surgical Incision

Next, while Tim and I are trimming hooves and tusks and marking pigs off that ever-growing list, there is a pig that has been in a pen for medical reasons that is now recovered and ready to go back home. Two people are needed to load the pig in a kennel, put it on the wagon and take it out to the field. Oops, a call just came over the radio that Akito has an injured leg. There they go with the kennel and wagon to load him up and bring him in to a pen where he can be examined and treated. Hey, another call on the radio; the back of the truck is full and someone needs to make a run to the dump.

Some jobs are scheduled to be done twice weekly. The feed stations at each of the nineteen fields and pen areas must be restocked with grain and hay. Here comes Jill with the ATV to load up bags of grain and take



Donna & Tim Trimming

them out to the various stations. Bobby is busy stacking hay on the other ATV to move it from the barn to the stations. Another weekly job is heading into town (25+ miles away) to get supplies. Stops are made at the post office, Petsmart, Fry's grocery store, the office supply store and the pharmacy at the drugstore.

At least once a month Dr. Page, our veterinarian, comes out to do "rounds." She will examine and/or treat 6-12 pigs per visit.



Tressie & Taryn Moving a Pig

Sometimes simple surgical procedures can be performed here on site using our anesthetic machine or a pig may need a sonogram or x-rays. These vet visits usually take several hours to complete.

Giving tours is another of our activities. Sometimes we have school groups come out for field trips and a picnic lunch. Other times it will be a family looking to



Jill Restocking a Feeding Station

adopt or a sponsor coming to meet their pig in person. Supporters come from all over the country to get a tour of the sanctuary. These have to be scheduled ahead of time to make sure we have enough people on staff that day to handle the tour.

Then there are the jobs that crop up unexpectedly. Harriet has passed away and must be buried in our cemetery. Graves must be dug and filled. Tim paints the names and dates on our grave markers. Then, yet another distress call on the radio. Screech is choking and having difficulty breathing. A quick call to the vet then the rush to load him in a kennel, into the van and off Ben goes to bring him in for



Tim & Bobby Putting Up Shade

emergency surgery. You never know what each day will bring.

Don't forget the seasonal projects either! When the nights have warmed up, all the carpet doorways on the shelters must come down and be stored in the loft of the barn. Hundreds of blankets are shaken out, folded and put into storage. New shade ramadas are built while old ones are repaired from wind damage. Mud wallows are raked and



Bobby Lowering a Shelter to Make it Easier for a Geriatric Pig to Enter

scraped to prevent algae growth. More wading pools need to be delivered to the fields as the temperatures continue to rise. Elderly and lame pigs have to be checked on throughout the day to

be sure they are not getting overheated or unable to get to their water and wallows.

Lee stays busy building shelters for the incoming pigs. With each field expansion more troughs and feed stations have to be built. He also installs and repairs the vast number of automatic waterers throughout the fields and pens.

As if all this isn't enough to keep us busy, there is also the offsite work. Mary takes pigs in to Dr. Page for specialty surgeries. Tim and I transport pigs to the Humane Society for spaying and neutering. Before any adoptions are complete, a home visit must



April Watering

take place. Trips are made all over the state picking up pigs being released to the sanctuary. Things you'll never hear any staff member of Ironwood say is "Whew, we're done!" or "Everything is finished. Let's go home early!" We are never done, we never catch up, we never even slow down. But as tired and overworked as we are, it is a labor of love. Having Charlotte flop down at your feet for a belly rub, a shy pig like Boss Hog allowing



Tim Preparing a Shade

his first ear scratching, seeing Frank pop out of his shelter at the sound of your voice or listening to Percy blow bubbles while he's sitting in the pool and you are quickly reminded about who you're really working for. It's always all about the pigs! You gotta love 'em! ---Donna

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 hoofandtusk@yahoo.com



Sponsor a S



Gertie

My brother got adopted, more new pigs have moved into my field and this heat is terrible! Somebody sponsor me before I lose my mind!



Walter

Well, I just got here not too long ago and I am very impressed. I had the longest hooves ever but Donna and Bobby trimmed those for me. I can walk so much better now. So if getting a sponsor is what I can do to help these people be able to take care of pigs like me, then I am all over it!



I'm supposed to appeal to a big provide for me how to do that and look pretty



Squeaky

First, my owners lost their home and sent me here. Next, my friend and companion, Zoey died. Then I got taken to the vet and was spayed. Now I find out that I'm supposed to go out and get a sponsor. Geez, somebody help me out here!



Princess

All these young whipper snappers around here are getting sponsors and leaving old ladies like me in the dust. They think because I have a pin in my leg that I can't get my own sponsor. Well, I'm not going to let this bad leg hold me back. Look out sponsors, here I come!



Squeaky

I'm just singing these pig sponsors one. I get me

Special Pig!



Missy

I to make some sort of
lunch of strangers to help
e. I asked my friend Abby
and she said to just smile
, so here I am.....



Sneezy

Before you even say anything, NO,
I am not going through chemo. I
am just hair follicle challenged. I
'Bald is beautiful!' At least, that's
what Shannon and Donna keep
telling me. Anybody out there with
those same sentiments?



Pinky Girl

So, what's up with this sponsor
thing? I'm new here and totally
don't get it. Other pigs say it's
awesome to have a sponsor but I
guess I need to just experience it
to understand.



y Dan

grooving through the field,
my tunes when I overhear
pigs all talking about their
s and how cool it is to have
get to thinking, man, I gotta
one of those.....

JOIN OUR FAMILY OF SPONSORS

Help us to heat things up this summer by becoming a part of our "herd" of sponsors! For a \$30 monthly donation you can provide for a pig's food, shelter, health care and their share of



Donna

Dapple

sanctuary expenses. I will send you pictures and a letter with the history of your pig as well as periodic updates throughout the year. We'd love to have you join us!

Donna

Thanks to Our Community

Thanks to Whole Foods Market and their customers we had \$1,262.85 more dollars to spend on our pigs here at Ironwood. They put out donation boxes for our pigs and through no effort of ours we soon received a nice check and more people in the community learned about Ironwood. Thank you so much Sonya, Kai Holck and all who donated for helping us help the pigs.

Albertson's has been very generous for many years now by donating their discarded produce to the Sanctuary. Willy, one of our volunteers, picks up the produce and delivers it to our pigs at both of our facilities. For many

it is a treat, but for most of our older sick pigs fruit is often a means of keeping them hydrated when they want little else to eat or drink. It is also great to get our



Whole Foods Donation

post surgical pigs back on track and they will often eat some melon or other fruit the first few days after surgery when they want little else.

Joel Fleminger and friends from Vivapura brought over 600 pounds of dried figs all the way from Patagonia that they were unable to sell. These were a great treat for our pigs!!

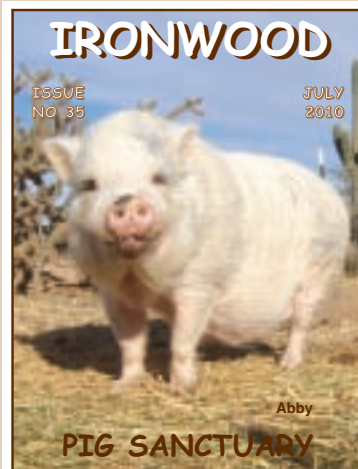
Thanks so much for making the effort to bring them all the way here for our pigs enjoyment.

Jeff Gould from In Balance Living sent staff and about 20 young men out to volunteer for a day and we had no problem putting them all to work raking two of our large fields. Boy do we wish we had that much help often. It would make a big difference.

---Mary

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 lotion 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



Abby is a sweetheart, but like most pigs she has a mind of her own. She came to us in 2002 as an adult. Abby got a nice home but was not having it. She got snappy right away and when Eleanor asked my advice I felt she should come back to Ironwood. When we returned her to her field she immediately ran back to her low boy shelter where she had lived, and still does, with her small herd and began rooting the ground and made herself at home. Eight years after she first arrived at Ironwood this is her forever home.

Susie and Sammy arrived at Ironwood in June of 2009. They are two more casualties from the economic downturn and another foreclosure. Although they are both young they are rather "chunky" and therefore did not do well in one of our fields with younger pigs. Sammy soon became very lame so they were moved to one of our assisted living fields. They have adjusted well to their new home. Sammy is very shy but Susie is more social and likes to have the donated desitin and sunscreen put on her ears.

Thank You For All Of Your Support

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. 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.

Apply For a Sanctuary Credit Card

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, 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.



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.

The Mary C. Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your will please use the name of both organizations and the following tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483. Thank you for your support.

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.

Twix is a Lucky Pig

The calls continue to pour in from people who have lost their homes and need to place their pigs. Not an easy thing to do for an adult pig and certainly not for Twix and his sister Hopper who are 2-1/2 years



Twix On His Arrival

old, rather large and not particularly social. We were also told he had a testicular tumor, which is not uncommon in unneutered male pigs but not at 2-1/2 years old. Tim and Donna picked the pair up and brought



them to Ironwood. I wondered why there were no babies since they were living together and Twix was not neutered. When I

went out to look at them I was shocked. He clearly did not have a testicular tumor but what was this huge sack hanging from his groin that was so large it dragged on the ground and he could hardly walk?

This was one for Dr. Page for sure and quickly. As it turned out Twix had a huge hernia and lucky for him it was repairable. She was able to push the intestines back into the abdomen, stitch the hole, and then a large piece of skin had to be removed so he would not continue to step on it with his hooves. The surgery went well but there was a considerable amount of bleeding and clotting from the area where the skin had been removed and we were frightened that he had herniated again because of all the swelling. We had to transport him again to our vet. Again, lucky for Twix, the stitching had held and we were just dealing with some large clots that would take time to reabsorb and break down. Several days later we took the drain out and after many days of applying hot packs to his tummy, not an easy task since he did not welcome our presence, we began to see progress.

After several weeks Hopper and Twix were reunited and released together to one of our smaller fields since we were not anxious

to have Twix be in a field where he may encounter fights with other pigs. They settled in very



Twix After His Recovery

quickly in their new field and now spend their days together under a creosote bush or in a wallow.

We never wish people ill and certainly don't like to hear that yet another pig owner has lost their home and thus the pig or pigs have lost their home as well.



Twix & Hopper Reunited

However, in this case Twix got the care he desperately needed in time to have a happy ending, Hopper got her brother back, and because of you we had the resources to act quickly to help him. Thanks! And, oh yes, he is now neutered as well. ---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.

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible.

In Memory of Mercury



Dear Staff,

Our dear Mercury passed away on June 1, 2010. She was almost 13 years old. She loved other animals. Please accept this donation in her memory.

*Best wishes,
Mike & Tina Paterick*

In Memory of Winona



Winona came to our home when she was 3 months old. She was remarkably intelligent. By four months old she was totally house broken and part of our family. Winona had her own bedroom. She loved to go to bed early and made fierce noises if anyone dared to come into her bedroom. She was extremely gentle, she just enjoyed her privacy. She also lived in our home with 3 other dogs so the question was? Is she a dog or a Pot Bellied pig? She obviously thought she was one of the dogs and would set her butt down and beg for her cookies.

She was a wonderful member of our family and at the age of 17 she passed away. Winona had a great life and will be missed by everyone including all the dogs and cats. She is now buried in our pet cemetery outside my bedroom window with all the other pets that have passed before her. She is not alone. Miss you Winona piggy...
---caregiver Arlene Essig

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Susie

Sammy