

# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary Post Office Box 35490 Tucson, AZ 85740

May 2014

Dear Supporter,

Welcome to our thirteen year Anniversary. It is really hard to believe we have been here that long, but when I look at myself in the mirror or look at so many of our earliest pigs I can believe thirteen years have indeed passed.

As we celebrate our anniversary, we are looking back at milestones and I would have to say that celebrating thirteen years as the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is a milestone in itself. Thirteen years of joy and sadness, hardships and successes, laughter and anger; and through it all never losing track of why we are here and what our mission is. Pigs need a home and we are here to provide a home for them. It seems simple enough at first glance, but simple it is not. Our first realization that our original goal of 125 pigs was unreasonable and that the idea that adoption and attrition would keep our numbers stable was naive, brought us to the reality that we would need to raise money to provide for our pigs.

We have had to learn to run a business, be managers, hire staff, build a facility, deal with all the day-to-day emergencies and most importantly care for six hundred pigs and raise the funds to care for them properly. Our newsletter and sponsor program were born to help with the task of raising the funds and they have become the lifeblood of our organization. You, our supporter who receives our newsletter, breathe life into our sanctuary and keep our pigs alive. We would not nor could not have expanded to our current size over these thirteen years without your help.

We all walk out to the fields in the early morning to start the daily routine of feeding and watering as we have done for thirteen years now, and the anxious pigs run and squeal with delight and anticipation of being fed. Their tails are held high and the young ones leap over things to be there first. It has certainly not always been true in their prior lives, but since their arrival at Ironwood they never miss a meal. We have followed their lives from leaping and squealing to their final days when we must hand feed them and help to lift them so they can get up, to the final dignity when we help them continue their journey into the next world.

For the hundreds of pigs who have passed through our gates during the past thirteen years, this has been our promise to them and their lives are our celebration. We are proud of our sanctuary that has developed over the years and we are so grateful to all of you who have come along with us, some from our early beginnings.

Thank you for caring,

Mary Schanz

President & Co-Founder

Mary Schan

Claire, Our First Pig With Mary

## Another Charlotte...And Then Some

here are certain names that seem to be very popular for pigs..... Wilbur, Penelope, Hamlet and of course, Charlotte. We have had plenty of each which can get confusing when referring to a particular pig. In March of this year we got yet another Charlotte, one we had been hoping and trying to get for quite a while. She belonged to a woman who kept a few breeding pigs around as a sideline to her main business of breeding dogs. This wasn't your top of the line breeder though. Her animals lived in filth, cages of dogs stacked all over the house with others running wild over the property, larger dogs killing the smaller ones. Not even close to being a safe environment for a pig but especially dangerous for babies.

The woman's neighbor, Susan tried her best to be alert to the sounds of dog attacks in the pigs' area. Several times she jumped the fence to snatch a piglet to finding safety while devastating evidence of those for whom it was too late. Four of her rescued babies have ended up with us over the past 2 years. Socks who went on to be adopted by a wonderful family as a companion to their other pig, Henry who lives in our Main Field then Hope and Maddie who are recent arrivals. Susan called Animal Control several times in attempts to stop the chaotic



breeding of both the pigs and the dogs. She tried talking with the woman to convince her to stop. After multiple visits from Animal Control, she was finally told to stop breeding the dogs and to get rid of some of her animals. Unfortunately the case was not followed up on and although things did get better with the removal of some dogs, it is still far from being over.

By this time Charlotte was the only pig left alive. She was delegated to living in a small pen with chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese. Susan kept pestering the woman to please give Charlotte to her and finally in March of this year, she relented. Charlotte was picked up and brought to Ironwood. We were dismayed to see the condition she was in. A back foot is gnarled and twisted up in the air. She walks on the "elbow" joint of that leg, being unable to use that foot at all. Her hooves were long, obviously never having been trimmed. Charlotte's belly was dragging the ground. Both of her ears are mangled, one being almost

completely bitten off. Yet, this pig has a sense of beauty around her. She has pretty blue eyes and a calm demeanor. Charlotte is timid but not afraid of us. There is a gentle dignity about her that is amazing in consideration of the life she has led.

Susan helped to get more background information on Charlotte. The owner claims she bought her at six weeks of age from an Indian Reservation and that her foot was already damaged from a dog or coyote attack. She said that Charlotte is only 5 years old. The poor thing appears to be much older. If she is 5, then the hard life she's led and the continuous litters have taken their



toll on her body. The owner also claimed that she had not had Charlotte bred recently and there was no way she could be pregnant.

Well, we soon began to think differently. Yes, Charlotte's belly drags the ground partly because she cannot stand up on all four feet with that damaged foot. She tilts down to one side as she walks on her elbow. But her tummy sure looked round! We took Charlotte to our vet for a sonogram and with mixed emotions found out she was pregnant with a full litter near term. Babies are so cute....but we don't need more pigs. Babies are so fun to watch....but we don't need the extra work involved. Babies are so adorable and easier to adopt out....but we have so many sweet pigs already here to adopt. The bright side to this is that Charlotte would have her babies with us in a safe comfortable environment for the first time in her life. She could be a good mom without living in fear of the next dog barging in to snatch away her babies. And so the waiting began....

We got Charlotte moved into the "baby pen" which had been baby proofed last fall for Karter and her babies, another pregnant rescue that you can read about in our September 2013 newsletter. The hog panel fencing has been



covered to prevent the piglets from crawling through into another pen or outside. Charlotte's house was filled with bedding hay so she could make a nice warm nest for her babies. Each morning we anticipated finding little piglets and at the end of each day we were saying, "Still



no babies!" Charlotte's belly got bigger and bigger and was really dragging the ground now. Every day we worried and fussed around and checked on her often.

Finally on the morning of April 3rd Charlotte went into labor. It wasn't until late that afternoon that she had the first of nine babies. The first five came rather quickly, numbers six and seven were several hours apart with the seventh being stillborn. Number eight came much later then sadly the last baby was another stillborn.

Things started out okay with the babies nursing well, but then Charlotte began to turn them away. She became ill and was running a temperature, no longer interested in letting the babies nurse. That responsibility fell on us. We set up a play pen inside our Visitor Center and filled it with bedding hay. A heat lamp was set up to keep the babies warm. A feeding schedule was made out that involved getting fresh goat's milk to the babies every two hours during the day time and every three hours throughout the nights. mortality rate for bottle feeding piglets is pretty high and sure enough we ended up losing two of them over the next couple of days.

The other five are hanging in with us, growing more each day, perhaps not as fast as they would on mom's milk but growing nonetheless. Their nights and early mornings are spent in the play pen indoors. As soon as it warms up outside they are taken to the pen where they were born



to wander about and play in the dirt and hay, napping in the sunshine when they tire themselves out. In the meantime, Charlotte is living in a separate pen and has recovered from her



illness. It was certainly not the happy family scene that we had envisioned for Charlotte to have with her piglets, but at least she will never have to go through another pregnancy. Her breeding days are over. Charlotte can look forward to a relaxed "retirement" here at Ironwood.

---Donna

## International Water Truck

I'm sure that the picture in this letter of you and your wife Caroline standing in front of the 1971 International 4000 gallon water will remind you of the day in 2004 that you delivered the truck to us.

ear John.

I am writing this letter to you to let you know that we still use the truck for a major portion of our water needs so that all your original efforts are still bearing fruit and are still appreciated.

We purchased the truck from an ad in ebay that you referred us to. It was located in the Lancaster area about 60 miles north of Los Angeles. We had a friend that lived in the area check out the truck to make sure it would be ok for us for getting water.

You offered to pick up the truck and bring it to Ironwood. The two front tires were not in good shape and at your expense you had them replaced with new tires along with different rims. You also had your mechanic check it over and replace all the filters and fluids. Since it would have been difficult to drive to Ironwood you actually contracted with a mover and had it moved to Marana. You mentioned that the steering had a lot of play and it was difficult to drive from Edwards to your home in Los Angeles. remember your exact words. You that said it was "very



disconcerting" to drive. experienced that same feeling when driving the truck. A short while after that I purchased a rebuilt steering box which corrected the problem. As the years have gone by we have used the truck more and more. At the time of your delivery we needed to drive into Marana for an additional 1,500 gallons a day to supplement the 1,000 gallons a day from our well. Now almost 10 years later with the growth of our herd we need supplement the 2,000 gallons a day from a new well with 5,000 to 6,000 gallons a day!

We purchased a used Kenworth 4,000 gallon water truck last year because we felt that since we needed so much water we didn't want to be at the mercy of the International in case it had a major problem. But so far it hasn't had a

problem and keeps on chugging along.

Julian, one of our staff now drives the International. He likes to drive it and it is his truck to drive and I drive the Kenworth. The Kenworth is quieter and a little more comfortable with its air suspension. We usually go together to get water twice a week in the summer and when it is needed in the winter.

Who would have thought that the International would have done so well over all these years.

Thank you John!

Regards, Ben



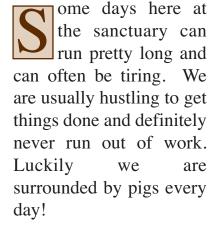
Julian and "His"
International Water Truck

# Cute Things That Pigs Do





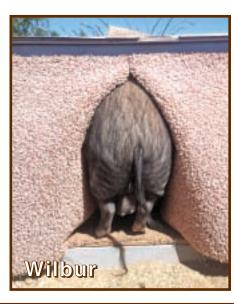






---Taryn

While trying to get our daily chores completed it is so refreshing to see the pigs being happy and doing cute things. A few of us try to snap photos of the pigs throughout the days. I wanted to share some of the cute sights we see during our work days. These photos definitely made me smile and I hope they do for you too.









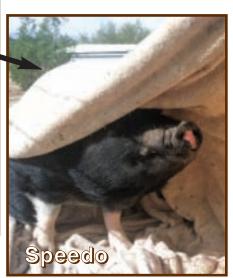












Dapple & Miss Piggy





# Sponsor



I came here a couple of years ago with some problems, but I've had surgery, been put on meds and am doing much better.



Anniversary" to everyone!

You know they say A bring May flowers. am! Pick a Daisy for spring bouquet!

I remember being so excited to get our very first sponsor to support a pig. We've come a long way in thirteen years but always have more pigs that need your support. Your \$30 monthly donation will help your pig meet their basic needs and share of sanctuary expenses. You will receive photos and a



letter about your pig plus new pictures and an update during the year. Please join our family of sponsors to help one of these adorable piggies!

---Donna



I'm kinda nev love to give ki rubs in return. I gal!

# Special Pig!



ay April showers rs. Well, here I y for your



I've been on the Weight Watcher's program since coming here. Can someone sneak me in a couple of pies or something?



The Doctor is in! My full name is Dr. Charlotte Meatballs.
Really, I'm not kidding!
You can just call me
Doctor for short.



new around here. I e kisses and get belly n. I'm a cuddly kind of



My name is misleading. I am really a small piggy, but I have a GIANT heart full of love to give a sponsor.



I've been abandoned, rescued, adopted out then released back to Ironwood. No more! I just want to stay here!

## Never in Their Wildest Dreams

ometimes as I walk through the sanctuary and stop to look at or belly rub or talk to some of the pigs who surround me and are a part of my life, I find myself recalling their history. Never in their wildest dreams would thev have envisioned what their lives would be like now after their often horrible nightmarish beginnings. Some of you may remember some of their stories when they were told in our newsletters upon their arrivals.

Vinnie was one of 60 or more pigs rescued in the late 90's from an old woman and her mentally



#### Vinnie

handicapped brother in Florida. The condition of the animals and the living conditions were horrible. The pot belly pig community stepped up to rescue and vet these pigs and after a long process many were transported across country to various sanctuaries in May of 2002. We accepted 7 and 7 more went to St. Matilda's in Queen Creek, AZ.

Vinnie was one of the group who went to Queen Creek. On July 4th



#### Vinnie and Kaylee

weekend of 2004 Vinnie and the rest from Queen Creek were brought to live with us. He lived in a large field with his companions for many years, but he always had a back leg that dragged behind him, probably an injury from his early days. It became too difficult for him to get around, so we brought him into our hospice area with new friends and all the luxuries that go with living there.

Blitzen and Noodles both had enormous testicular tumors and



**Blitzen** 

lived in small pens by themselves. They were two of nearly 75 who

were brought to Ironwood from a rescue in Apache Junction over a period of three years. After they recovered from their surgeries, they lived in a large field with others from the rescue but most did not know each other since the majority had been kept in small pens. They too have grown old and become too arthritic to continue living in a large field. We made the decision to bring them in to a smaller field so they could enjoy the increased attention and amenities the older pigs receive.



#### **Noodles and Blitzen**

Annie and her brother Sammy were with us before we even opened. We were called to take both of them and I was so glad we responded. A friend offered to foster them until we had Ironwood up and running. They were about a year old when we got them and they lived in a tiny pen on the west side of a mobile. The only shade they had was a set of stairs enclosed with plywood so to get out of the sun they had to stand or lie down on the stairs. The people who owned them had



#### **Noodles - Before**

rescued them as babies from a man living in a remote desert area who said he was going to kill them. Sammy has passed away, but Annie still lives in another one of our areas of intensive care with her friends Betty and Momma and now Gloria has joined them.



**Annie** 



**Annie Getting Her Juice** 

On January 15th of this year Ben got a call about a stray pig in the San Tan Regional Park. Ben and Julian went to pick him up that very day. Julian thought he should be named San Tan which seemed fitting. He was quickly neutered and after several weeks was ready to be released to a field. Hope arrived in March of this year. She had been rescued last



**Noodles - After** 

winter by Susan when she was only hours old from the same hoarder/breeder who had Charlotte. All her litter mates had



San Tan and Hope

frozen to death. She is now a little over a year old. This week Hope and San Tan were released to the same field with six other pigs who recently arrived at Ironwood. They almost immediately became enamored of one another and are now seen together almost all the time. They had a big fight but in no time Hope came over and lay right next to San Tan again. What a delight it is to watch these two become friends!

So whether it is smaller more comfortable areas with afternoon juice and fruits, summer cold towels and winter tuck ins with warm blankets for the now old pigs or new friends and a large field with shade, water, shelter, and safety for the young ones, these piggies would have never imagined in their wildest dreams they would have the life they now enjoy.

---Mary

#### Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson,
Phoenix and surrounding areas
can contact Donna Thomason
for pot-bellied pig 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.



# Our Many Thanks

want to take this opportunity to thank many volunteers who come to Ironwood on a weekly basis to help out with chores for the pigs. Bob has been helping to rake our fields since we opened our gates. He was here to help build the sanctuary as well before there was a pig to be seen. We became friends when we were all volunteers at Pigs\*A\*Lot, so we go back many years.

Laura also got her feet wet at our Annex but has been traveling to Ironwood for several years now. She started as a produce chopper but now helps me every Tuesday to feed the pens and clean bowls as well as cleaning the huge amount of dishes we have each day and cutting up fruit for the older pigs' afternoon snacks.

Barbara and Bruce duPlisse have been doing the lion's share of the thank you notes for us for many years now. They come by our house in town and pick them up and promptly get the notes off to all of our great donors. Many of you know them now and send notes of thanks back to them.

Donna Scoggin is also a great help to me since I send her a packet each week with many thank yous that must be done as well and she sends a handwritten note to many folks who have written to us with comments and questions. DJ lives at our home in Tucson and she picks up all the Sanctuary mail a couple times a week then opens and sorts it for us. She also takes care of Lightning, our old rescued pig who lives in Tucson with us. Lucky Lightning has one-on-one care.

Joan and Melissa come to volunteer each Wednesday as well. Joan does an assortment of things for me in the house when she is here and Melissa who comes all the way from Phoenix helps with many of the outdoor chores including raking, lunches, cleaning pens and many other daily chores.

Michelle is visiting from Nova Scotia for 2 ½ months. She is living on site and volunteering five days a week. She is learning a lot of the daily tasks, getting up at night to help with the babies and doing computer work as well. We are very happy to have her here.

You all help so much to make Ironwood a better place for the pigs. We have others not mentioned here who come to help out occasionally. We so appreciate all of you who help us take care of our pigs. It is a big job for a small staff.

---Mary

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Postage Stamps (Forever, 49, 34, 2 cents) Other denominations can also be used

Used Blankets are always welcome

Rugby Zinc Oxide is available on Amazon.com

Fig Newtons - Generic OK - Not individually wrapped

Peanut Butter - Creamy Only

Triple Antibiotic Ointment

Plain Silver Duct Tape

Ensure or Equivalent, Vanilla Only

**Animal Crackers** 

#### BIG STUFF

ur Wish Li

Cargo Van - Late Model, Full Size, rear A/C

#### GIFT CARDS

Fry's Discover Staples Target Home Depot MasterCard Petsmart Lowes Office Max Office Depot

\*\*\*\*Be sure to check out our Wish List on Amazon.com for more items that we need.\*\*\*\*

### **Double Your Donation!**

## You can double your donation if you work for or are retired from a matching gift company.

Most major companies will match their employee's or retiree's donations to a charity effectively doubling their donation. The process is usually pretty simple. You obtain a Matching Gift form from your employer, even if you are retired. Fill out the form and include it with your donation. We will fill out our part and send it back to your employer who will send Ironwood a donation equal to your donation. Your gift with your employer's match will go even further toward taking care of the almost 600 pigs at the Sanctuary. Thank you for making the effort to support us.

#### Do You Buy From Amazon.com?

If you do, you can use Smile.Amazon.com which is the same Amazon you know and love and you will receive the same deals, same prices, same services, etc. as Amazon.com. However, the big difference is that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Here is how you do it:

Log on to Smile.Amazon.com/ch/86-0999483 using the same login information that you use for your Amazon.com account. At the top of the page you will see Supporting: Mary C Schanz Foundation. The Foundation is our parent organization and it is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary.





## PayPal Donations

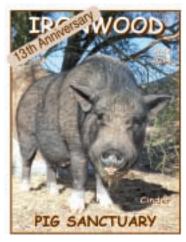
You can make secure One-Time or Multiple Monthly Sponsor or Sustainer donations to the Sanctuary with PayPal (no PayPal account required) using your credit card by going to the SUPPORT page of our web site at www.ironwoodpigs.org Or if you have a PayPal account you can make a donation directly by using our e-mail address ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com

## Remember the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary In Your Will

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has been the recipient of bequests from a number of generous supporters. These donors felt that they needed their assets during their lifetimes, but decided to link themselves with the ongoing life of the Sanctuary by making bequests through their estate plans.

The Mary C Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your Will please use both names (although it is okay if you've already used only the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary name), the post office address from the back cover and this tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483. Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to the almost 600 Pot Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated.

## Front and Back Covers



his is our 13 year anniversary so the pigs on our front and back covers are pigs who have been part of Ironwood or our Annex before there actually was an Ironwood. They are a part of the history when we were volunteers and part of

why Ironwood came to be.

I first met Cinder when he and his sister Missy were babies back in 2000 at the facility that is now our Annex. We were volunteering there at that time when Cinder and Missy were born the summer of 2000 and then were adopted a few months later. I was there the day they were adopted, not thinking that a short two years later they would arrive at the doors of Ironwood. The woman who adopted them had another pig by the name of Piglet. In May of 2002 we got a call from her saying she had to give her three pigs up and would we take them. So 12 years ago May 6th Cinder, Missy, and Piglet arrived at Ironwood. Cinder, Missy and Piglet, now 14 years old, were all released to our main field where they have lived all this time, except Piglet who had to be moved to our hospice area due to severe arthritis.

Cinder and Missy were never really socialized during their stay with their mom who adopted them. However they have been happy and healthy over all these years. Missy now requires a mash and a feeding pen but she and Cinder still get around well. They go back to our real beginnings with pigs before Ironwood was even conceived.



hile many of our pigs come from homes and are well socialized, many others will never let us touch them, much like a feral cat. Simba and Timone are two such pigs. Like Cinder they came from our Annex and both were brought to our main facility due to health issues. I know nothing of Timone's history except that he lived his life at what is now our Annex and was probably born there sometime before we were volunteering there.

I do recall Simba however. She arrived at Pigs\*A\*Lot sometime in 1999. She was an adult but very tiny and painfully shy. She had beautiful blue eyes, one of which is now gray due to blindness. She would circle on the edges of the herd and when I was there volunteering I would always try to sneak her some extra food since she was too shy to approach the herd. She eventually made friends and Timone is one of them. They spent most of their time together in one of our fields but now due to their failing health, we have brought them both to one of our pens so they will feel safe together for their remaining time with us.



### 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.

# Donation Drop Offs in Phoenix and Tucson

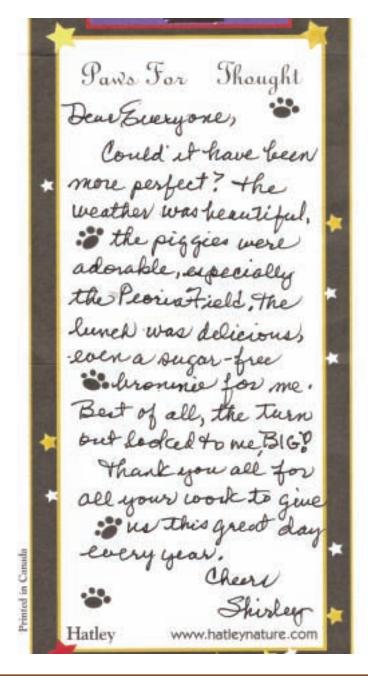
Even though our winter is over, we still need blankets which will be stored for next winter. We are always in short supply so any blankets are appreciated. For supporters in the Phoenix and Tucson areas, you can save shipping charges by dropping off blankets at the locations below.

Those that have donations of blankets or other wish list items can now drop them off at a location in Phoenix and two locations in Tucson. Please note that no monetary donations such as cash, checks, gift cards, etc. can be accepted at these locations. All other material donations are very welcome and much appreciated. Don't forget blankets since we are always in short supply for the winters.

For the Phoenix area you can drop donations off at Carolyn's in East Mesa, AZ near Superstition Springs Mall. Give her a call at 480-981-8069 for directions and to arrange a drop off.

For the Tucson area there are two drop off points. One on the north side in the vicinity of Oracle Road and Hardy and the other in southeast Tucson near Swan Road and 22nd Street. Please email ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com or call 520-631-6015 for directions.

Thank you for all your support!



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