

IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO 59

JULY
2014



Roo

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

July 2014

Dear Supporter,

As I come to you this July I can only think of the quote by Thomas Paine, "These are the times that try men's souls". It is HOT. Day after day of 110 plus or minus a few degrees. A tough existence for most of the pigs here in Arizona so what possible good reason could there be to continue to breed pot belly pigs here? GREED! Thanks to that woman from England and the American media blitz, the fad to have a "micro mini" or "Tea Cup" pig spread like wildfire across this country and now there are thousands more pigs in need of homes because people believed the lies they have been told by the "Tea Cup" breeders that these pigs will be 35 to 50 pounds.

Not one minute of thought or consideration is ever given to the innocent animals behind the human insatiable appetite to massage their ego with exotic animals. Ever since the first group of pot belly pigs were brought here in 1985, the flood gates of abuse and neglect of one more exotic species were opened. Once the initial fad began to die out because people began to realize that they did not want a 120 to 170 pound strong independent animal bulldozing their backyard or pushing over their furniture or attacking them or their household members, the new "Tea Cup" fad began. They inbred them until they become smaller with many congenital health issues or starve them so they won't grow big and you will have the ideal little house pet, a "Tea Cup" pig. WRONG! It is animal cruelty pure and simple and the breeders should be turned in to animal control. They are no different than any other individual whose animals will be confiscated and the owners prosecuted for starving their animals. Why do we put up with this? Because it is a commercial business and there is money to be made just like the Puppy Mills.

Pigs are wonderful, sensitive, intelligent animals and many who have them love them dearly but not enough people do. Just go to the livestock auctions here in Arizona and see how many are not loved. It is outrageous that we as a "moral" society accept killing of all of our disposable animals when they no longer fit into our life styles or there just aren't homes for them because we have either unintentionally or intentionally overbred them.

The ages of pigs now needing homes are younger than ever before and the numbers are out of control. It is becoming more difficult for us to cope with these increased numbers. Please do whatever you are able to do to stem this tide. I know that I am preaching to the choir, but maybe you will encounter one person and convince that person to not buy a "Tea Cup" pig. One at a time we hope to stop this insanity.

Thank you for caring,



Mary Schanz
President & Co-Founder



Mary With Snooky

Insert: When Snooky was a "Tea Cup" Pig

Charlotte's Boys

In the May newsletter you were introduced to Charlotte, a rescued pig who just happened to be pregnant. She rejected her babies leaving us to become the moms. Her five boys kept us busy with several feedings throughout each day and night, worrying about the runt who never seemed to grow like his brothers, getting medicine and Pedialite down that same runt who developed diarrhea, cleaning their playpen which was their nighttime home inside the Visitor Center, making runs to pick up goat's milk, and on and on. The many nights of interrupted sleep and the extra work involved have all been worth it though!

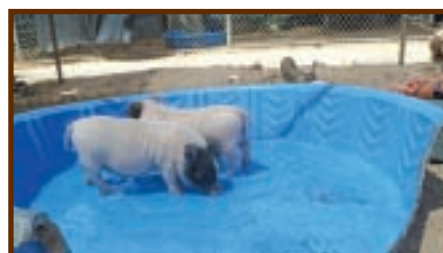


We started with feedings of goat's milk in a pie plate except for Ed Allfree who insisted on being fed from an eye dropper for quite some time. We were so excited when he began eating from the pan like the others! It was amazing how fast the boys could suck down a pan of milk! Later we began adding a little mash made of a mix of Pig Starter and Youth Food. Gradually the amount of mash overtook the



amount of milk. After each feeding the babies had to be wiped down because they were so messy with their meal, diving right into the pan of milk and mash. Jango and Huratio really didn't like the bath thing at all and let everyone know about it! When the babies got older we transitioned from mash to dry grain with fruits and vegetables.

On behalf of these adorable piggies, we want to say a huge, giant THANK YOU to Shelby of HoofsnHorns Farm Sanctuary and Carol Hawkes, a neighbor of Ironwood who both provided milk from their goats to feed our babies. They were so generous with letting us have as much goat's milk as we needed, whenever we needed it. I really don't think the babies would be as



healthy as they are now or possibly have even survived without the milk provided by these two ladies (well, by their goats ☺). Our heartfelt thanks go out to Carol and Shelby!

Jango, Huratio, Riley, Ed Allfree and Si are all doing fantastic now. They have grown into chubby little piggies who have fun playing in the hay, mud and water. The nights warmed up enough that in early May we began letting them sleep outside in the shelter



inside their pen. They have access to two connected pens, so there is plenty of room to run and play. It wasn't too long before they got big enough to go out into the exercise yard for short daily excursions. Here Riley and Si were the first to get brave enough to try out the wading pool.

Huratio is our littlest boy and the one we worried about most often. Thankfully, he finally began to gain his strength and put on some weight until he was able to keep up with his brothers. He plays and tumbles and pushes right along with the others. It is so cute

to watch them play! Ed Allfree loves to have his tiny belly rubbed. Jango enjoys a good ear rub. Si and Riley like being petted but would rather eat than anything else! All five boys are very social with each other and with people. They've been handled so much since birth that they are super friendly.



On the morning of May 27th I took the five boys to the clinic where they were neutered by Dr. Neal and her vet tech Becky. The babies were excellent patients and quickly recovered from their ordeal. By the time I pulled into the sanctuary's driveway shortly after noon, they were squealing in anticipation of a late lunch acting as if nothing had happened to them.

It has really been a team effort to feed and care for these piglets. We owe a lot not only to Shelby, Carol and their goats but to the staff and volunteers who helped with the feeding and socializing. You may have heard the African proverb: "It takes a village to raise a child." That certainly applies to this situation. It took a community of animal lovers to raise these boys into happy, healthy piggies.

---Donna



Carol Hawkes generously donated many gallons of goat's milk for Charlotte's baby pigs. She has a business making products from goat's milk. She sells soap, lotion, face cream, sunscreen, shampoo and conditioner. You can contact her at alpinegoatgirl@gmail.com or visit her web site at www.alpinegoatgirl.com.

She uses her larger male goats as pack goats. They hike with her family and carry their tents, sleeping bags, food and water.



Shelby also generously donated many gallons of goat's milk for Charlotte's baby pigs. She is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and rescues different animals including various species of goats.

She has handmade soap for sale in 10 different fragrances and shapes including animal shapes. All the proceeds from the sale of her t-shirts and soaps go to take care of her rescued animals. Visit her web site at www.hoofsnhorns.com.

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.



Capital One Discontinued the Ironwood Credit Card Program



Capital One has discontinued their Card Lab Connect Program for small businesses effective June 17, 2014. They gave no reason for this, but I am sure it is for financial reasons. After June 17th no new cards will be issued under the Ironwood program. Ironwood will continue to receive payments until September 30, 2014. After this date you will receive a new rewards card from Capital One with no payments to Ironwood. You can donate your future rewards to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary if you wish

by going to <https://www.capitalone.com/give>. We are disappointed that the program has ended. It was a nice income for the pigs. We want to thank all our supporters who went through the process to get a card in order to support the Sanctuary.

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.

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 log-in 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.

Aidan's New Home

For Aidan the Grass Really Is Greener on the Other Side

When Aidan arrived at the sanctuary it was evident he was different than most pigs. His teeth were a bit underdeveloped and broken; he had sensitive skin from being indoors and he was a bit jumpy. Aidan was going to need some special attention and love.

We knew Aidan would do much better if he were to be adopted than if he were out in one of our fields. I immediately put a plea out to some people I knew that would be good parents for him. When Aimee said she would love to bring him in to her family I thought it would be a great fit.



Aimee and her husband have one pig, Petunia, and several other animals including chickens. Their yard is very large with tons of trees and grass. They love their animal family so dearly. I knew Aidan would love the environment and be welcomed with open arms. After I made a visit to check out Aidan's new home we made arrangements for me to bring Aidan to his new family.



When I arrived with Aidan, Aimee was so enchanted when she saw him. Who wouldn't be!? When Aidan came out of his carrier and stepped onto the grass he immediately went to Aimee's husband, Andy. He gave him kisses and seemed to feel really comfortable around him. Aidan then did some exploring throughout the yard and under the trees. He even rooted around a little bit. I'm sure the openness of his new yard was as exciting as it was overwhelming. He was his timid self at first but warmed up quickly to everyone.

Petunia, Aimee's other pig, came



out to greet Aidan. Neither raised a hair at the other and they seemed to accept one another. Aidan was really interested in exploring his new home and finding all of the best places to lounge, so the two didn't spend a lot of time together at first.

Aidan, now known as Boaris, currently spends his days in a



green wonderland. He often hangs out under a fig tree with his new sister Petunia. The two spend a lot of time together and seem to enjoy each other's company. Boaris is slowly learning that he can come in the house and sleep with Petunia. In the meantime he has a large shelter outside that he can hang out in.

Boaris loves meeting the neighbors and giving kisses. He gets along well with all of the other family animals. It was such an easy transition. We couldn't be more thankful.

Here are Aimee's feelings on welcoming Boaris to the family:



is enough to make one's own face hurt from smiling and will warm one's soul. His favorite pastimes are sitting in his pool or under the fig trees, belly rubs, kisses, healthy snacks, belly rubs, spending time with his new buddy Petunia pig, belly rubs...and did I mention belly rubs? lol

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for choosing us as adoptive parents for this sweet boy!

Love,

Aimee Takaha"

---Taryn

"Dear Taryn,

Thank you so much for allowing sweet Boaris into our home and into our hearts. I cannot say enough about this little guy! He greets me every morning with so many grunts and kisses! I think he is telling me about his adventures and telling me he is happy. :) He will give me a kiss, assume the belly rub position, and wiggle his way right onto my lap! He is a snuggle bug of a pig if ever there was one! Oh! And let's not forget sucky face! Oh that sucky face was enough to have done me in alone! What's really great is when he gives me a lick, then makes sucky face! I can barely take it! Oh! :) And another thing that is so very wonderful is



the face. It is not a common pig face; he has a unique characteristic of a tongue that just won't stay in his sweet mouth. I LOVE it! Just looking at the face

Our Wish List

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
- Ensure or Equivalent, Vanilla Only
- Animal Crackers
- Vitamin E Capsules, 400 IU

BIG STUFF

- 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 | |

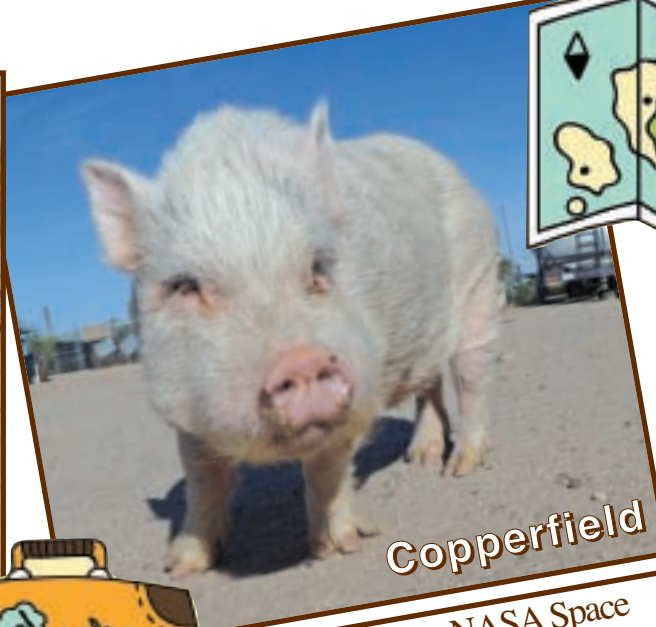
****Be sure to check out our Wish List on Amazon.com for more items that we need.****

Sponsor a S



Hamlet

Hamlet: I want to go to Disneyland! I'd ride all the rides a million times and wear Mickey Mouse ears and shake hands with Goofy. Wouldn't that be fun!



Copperfield

I want to go to the NASA Space Camp for Kids! I'd go in a space simulator and build a rocket and talk to astronauts. Wouldn't that be the greatest!



Simon

I'd go to the beach and play in the water all day. I'd build the biggest sand castle ever with my friends. Wouldn't that be a dream?



These piggies wanted to share their summer vacation fantasies with you. Their ideas match their personalities. You can get to know more about them by choosing one or more to sponsor. Your monthly donation of \$30 will help cover their basic needs and share of sanctuary expenses. In exchange you will receive a letter and pictures of your pig as well as an update and new photos during the year. Please join our family of sponsors!



Sedona

---Donna



My dream vacation is a quiet cabin in the woods. Relaxing under the trees, watching and taking pictures wouldn't that be nice!

Special Pig!



San Tan

Pebbles

h and play in the
build the biggest
with a big moat around
be awesome!

I'd go visit the Ironwood Pig
Sanctuary. Uh, wait a minute!
I already live there....duh! Maybe
you can come here to see me instead.
Wouldn't that be fun!

A trip up to the mountains would be
fabulous! Imagine rooting around in the
woods and kicking up leaves. I bet there
are all kinds of things to nibble on!



Ernie

Charlotte

Mary Helen

n vacation would be a
n in the woods.
e trees, doing some bird
taking long naps. Oh,
ce!

Charlotte: Wouldn't it be nice to stay
home, get a few projects finished,
clean the house. Oh, who am I
kidding! I'm going to Sea World and
play with the dolphins!

I would take a Caribbean cruise.
Relaxing on the deck listening to
music or reading a book would be
great. And I've heard about the
food buffets.....oooh!

To Spay or Not to Spay

When giving tours or speaking with supporters and visitors, I am often asked why we spay our females if all the males are neutered. That's a good question. Thirteen years ago when Ben, Mary and I started Ironwood we



Dottie

thought that just neutering the males to prevent any pregnancies was good enough. Of course we spayed any females that went out for adoption so there would be no "accidents" out in their new homes. As the sanctuary grew and we learned more about pot-bellied pigs, experience taught us several other reasons why we should get the girls altered.

First, there is a health risk as female pigs age. Nearly 85% of them develop uterine tumors over time. These can grow into life threatening problems if not removed. We have taken in older girls whose bellies were bulging and lopsided, as if they had a basketball inside. The rest of their bodies were thin and bony due to the tumor sucking all their nutrition away. Not all of them

survived their surgery, with the damage to their body being too far advanced. For example, late this May we took in a stray that was found near our Annex whom we've named Dottie. Her belly was hanging low and large with emaciated hips, so we assumed she was either pregnant or had a tumor. Dottie went to our vet's clinic for a sonogram. She has a huge tumor but is too anemic to undergo surgery just yet. Dottie is getting iron supplements as well as a high fat, high calorie diet to prepare her body to handle the spay surgery.

In April we spayed Mary Helen who arrived here in January of 2014. Her tummy was full and rounded, looking suspiciously like there was a tumor present. She only had a small tumor but it was blocking the opening of her uterus causing a great deal of fluid retention. The poor girl had 18 pounds of fluid inside her uterus! Spaying Mary Helen saved her from carrying that uncomfortable amount of liquid that would have only increased over time and eventually killed her.

Several years ago we took Betsy in to be spayed. She was still rather young, less than ten years old yet she was carrying a 42 pound tumor that was barely obvious from the outside. Can you imagine how that felt! You may have read Mary's article about Aibileen on page six of our

January 2014 newsletter. That poor girl had retained fetuses and numerous adhesions and would have certainly died if she hadn't gotten spayed when she did. Most of the pigs we have had spayed that are 7 years or older have had small tumors or ovarian cysts present. It is a very common occurrence in pigs.



Mary Helen

Preventing pregnancies and health issues are the top two reasons for getting a pig spayed. Many people are not aware that pigs go into heat every month for 4-6 days. That's twelve times a year! During their heat cycle pigs can undergo some frustrating and annoying changes in their personalities. One of our many Charlottes whom we call One Eared Charlotte would run around like a complete maniac pushing, shoving and gnawing on everyone's legs and even attacking the ATV's tires. Penelope (also one of several by that name) would become fixated on the wading pools. She dumped the water out then drug the pool all over the field, smashing it into pieces and once even shoving one

up into a tree. Penelope cost us several pools before we got her spayed.

Some of the females feel the need to chase people and nibble on their toes or the calves of their legs, neither of which feels very good. These behavioral issues are not always present during heat



Maddie & Donna

cycles. Some pigs are like Coco or Lacey who just become overly friendly wanting lots of attention. Pippa and a few others become more vocal and go around huffing at pigs and people. Some such as Christine or Claudia in her younger days become more “active” and constantly mount any pig within reach. Others are simply impossible to be around



Christine & Aibileen

iduring that few days each month. I mentioned earlier in this article that we started out just neutering the males here at Ironwood. Once we discovered all these reasons to get the girls spayed, it became a game of catch up. We made a huge effort and got a lot of our girls taken care of, but the constant intake of pigs has made it difficult to go back and spay everyone. We can only get so much surgery time with our vets and there are always so many other operations needed besides just spaying and neutering. There is a list of 44 girls to be spayed which is only 7.3% of our total population and we do as many as we can whenever possible.

Another consideration with spaying is the time involved with the recovery and after care. The pig needs to stay in a clean environment away from pools and mud wallows until the incision heals. This means 2-3 weeks of living in one of our holding pens normally set aside for newcomers or pigs with illnesses. Some of the pigs have difficulty overcoming the anesthesia and need almost constant supervision for the first couple of days and nights. Some of the older girls require subcutaneous or IV fluids during the first day or two of their recovery which means a staff member has to be with them at all times since a pig won't necessarily pay attention when you tell them not to move around and yank out the needle or knock the IV stand over. (Don't they realize we're only trying to help them!) Special diets of mashes,

canned pumpkin and oatmeal are necessary as their bodies react to the anesthesia and trauma of surgery. It can be very time consuming for the staff. We normally will only spay one to three girls at a time due to the increased after care as well as them tying up pen space which is needed for incoming or sick pigs.

Since the girls have to be without a pool or mud wallow, we are also restricted by the weather as to when or if we can have the surgery done. We have so many weeks and months of temperatures well over 100 that being without a pool or mud to



Shannon

cool off is just pure torture as well as dangerous for a pig. Late fall and winter are prime times for spays to occur.....if nobody else needs emergency surgery for a blocked urethra or dental surgery because they can't eat or removal of mammary tumors, etc. Yikes! We still hang on to that goal of getting all our girls spayed so none will have to suffer through uterine tumors, cysts, retained fluid or frustrating behavior changes. It may never happen, but we won't stop trying!

---Donna

Good People Do Good Things

Our pigs are so lucky. They have good people like you who support them and good people like these folks who go to a lot of effort to see our piggies get what they need for a good life. All of this happened without any input or time spent by us which is such a relief since we run as fast as we can and still can't keep up. Thank you to all of you who participated in these great events.



This was Kristie Ramos' second year to do a wonderful vegan bake sale for us at the Earth Day event in Tucson. She got a grant from A Well Fed World to help with the cost of the ingredients, Betts Printing on Park Ave to donate the printing and she got some volunteers to help with the baking. The results were wonderful as you can see from the pictures. Kristie had a wonderful day talking with everyone and promoting Ironwood and raised almost \$1200 for our pigs as she also promoted cruelty free eating. What could be better!

Melody Hodges and many others organized the 4th Annual Peaks for Pigs event in Phoenix. Thanks to everyone who hiked the peaks, donated to the event, printed tee shirts, businesses and individuals who sponsored and donated items for the raffle. It was a huge success and more then \$2000 was raised for our pigs.

A special thanks as well to Green Vegetarian Restaurant and Nami Soft Serve and Coffee who did the annual Ironwood Soynami. They hosted the luncheon and raffle and donated 100% of their proceeds for the day to Ironwood. ---Mary



Front and Back Covers



Roo is so cute here enjoying his summer mud bath. He is one of 58 pigs we brought from what is now our Annex back in January of 2002. We took them not long after Ironwood had opened in June of 2001. All 58 pigs arrived in two large trailer loads.

Roo is one of our East Field pigs. Since we took all of these pigs not long after we opened there was still plenty of space available for them and we quickly made a field where they could all live together. That's how it has been for the past 12 plus years. However we now have only 24 pigs living in the field that once housed 58. Some have been moved to other fields here at Ironwood where they can receive more intensive care and many have passed on.

So Roo has comfortably lived in our East Field with his best friend Buck all these years. All of the pigs were unsocialized and without names when they arrived, but over the years Donna has given them names. They have slowly allowed us to pet them and most now have sponsors. Buck is especially friendly so Roo has slowly warmed up as well seeing that his best friend allows us to pet him. As you can see from his picture Roo and the others in the East Field are not micro mini pigs. Just a friendly warning folks.

--- Mary



Buck & Roo



Christine Barbara Karter

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

Issue 59

Christine, Barbara and Karter were named after our three vets which we thought was fitting since they play a large part in caring for all of our pigs.

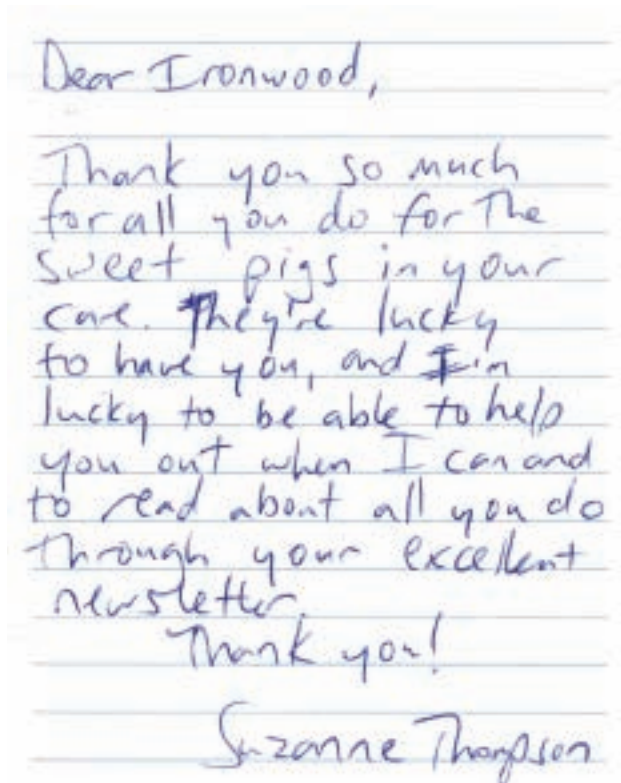
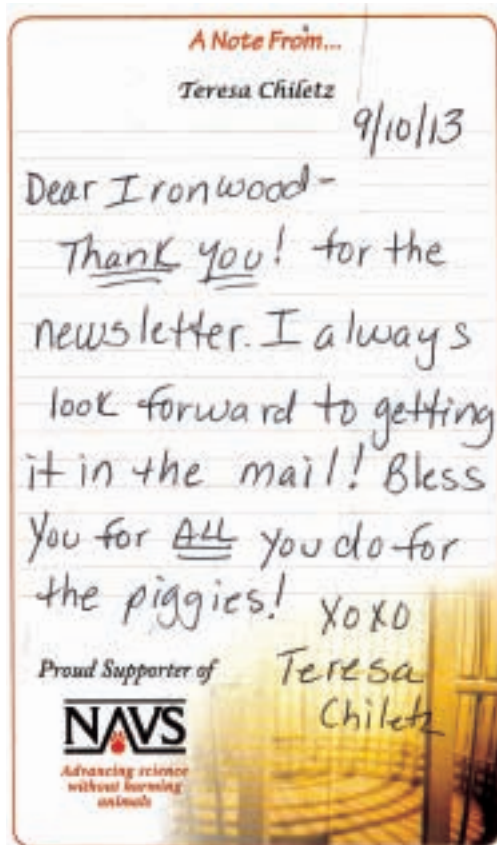
These girls plus Aibileen, Karloff and James Dixon (not pictured here) have now been with us for slightly over a year since their arrival on June 19th of 2013. It has been quite a year for them since their arrival. They are all settled together now in one of our large fields. Our youngest, Christine, certainly the daughter of one of the grown girls, is growing up herself. She has experienced many trials over the year. She was spayed with the others and later developed a suture infection that ended up taking several trips to our vet and many hours of labor on our part. We had to submerge her part way in a warm Epsom salts bath every other day for weeks. Since they are all wild pigs it was not an easy task, but with enough animal crackers on hand she soon learned that the warm bath was worth it. Barbara was in the pen with Christine for a good deal of the time since she developed her own infection and also was having difficulty with one of her ears. At least Christine had company while living out of the field away from her family. Karter delivered 6 babies but only three were alive and only two survived.

I wonder if their hard life in the desert has made them more vulnerable to many of their health issues. It has been a long road to health for them and a lot of unexpected expense and many hours of work on our part. But when you look at these three beautiful piggies how can one not know it was worth all of our efforts. Now they have a chance to grow old together.

Our Supporters Write



Supporter Anderson with Mother Christine

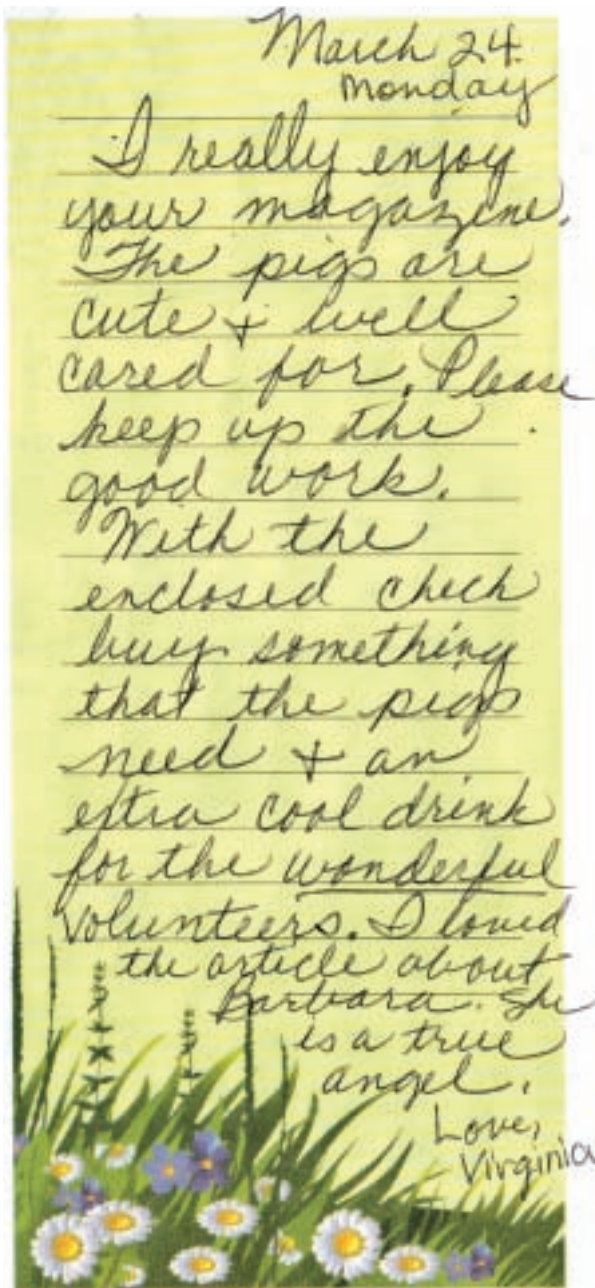


MISSION STATEMENT

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.



Dear Mary, Ben, Donna, Tim and the remainder of the staff of Ironwood,

I attended your fabulous Open House on Saturday, November 9. You pulled out all stops and made the event most rewarding for the visitors and supporters of your work, and by extension, your labor of love.

The pigs are fabulous. I tell people who have never heard of Ironwood P.S. that the residents are treated like Kings and Queens.

I saw "Amber", she is a small pig and her scar is almost invisible. She seems very happy and I am certain that the intrinsic reward for saving her is enormous.

Tim was an excellent guide. He told our group that he loves working there every day. A sincere fellow!

I was surprised just how wild and dangerous looking the desert scrub around Ironwood appeared to be. Rattlesnakes have no sense of humor. I am sure that you are careful and mindful of the potential dangers.

My friends from Green Valley had a great visit as well. My only regret was that my sponsored pig, "Travis" did not survive 2013.

Thanks again and best wishes!!

Bob Durkee

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PAID
TUCSON, AZ
PERMIT NO. 2216

JULY 2014
ISSUE 59

Return Service Requested
Published at the above address regularly.

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



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