

IRONWOOD

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Churchill

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

March 2016

Dear Supporter,

Over the past months and years we have written a lot about the “micro mini” and “teacup” pig craze that is raging across this country. Indeed Donna’s February update talked about how many young pigs we are now taking in here at Ironwood. Recently in AZ I gave an interview to two TV stations, one in Phoenix and one in Tucson and articles have been included that have been picked up by the major newspapers as well as independent newspapers. Rescues, sanctuaries, and now animal control facilities are being overwhelmed with unwanted pigs. Rescues across the country are on Facebook, emailing, trying to reach media, and discussing any way possible to stop these breeders from continuing to breed these animals, starving them to keep them small, and telling lies about how big they will or will not be. Even if they remain small they will still be a pig and have their pig behavior characteristics.

Is it the fault of the breeder or the fault of the buyer? Without buyers the breeders would make no profit and would not continue to breed. This whole crisis has made me realize how little the life of a non human species means to the most humans. Animals are used for our entertainment everywhere: rodeo, circus, dog and horse racing, bull fights, 4H and the list is endless, without a thought about how this affects the lives of these animals. And yes the pet industry is also part of the problem, and it is an industry. People want and will buy an adorable little piglet, puppy, kitten, fill in the blank for the species, without thinking that they are contributing to the death of more innocent animals. Many of these animals will be neglected or end up in rescues at best. Or abandoned, euthanized in shelters, or sold in livestock auctions as happens to many pigs.

The day must come in our society and in the world, if we are to consider ourselves a moral species, when we say, wild or domestic, Animals’ Lives Matter.

Sincerely,



President & Co-Founder

PS: Thank you for your support and thank you for caring about the lives of pigs because their lives matter.



Mary With Snooky - Insert: When Snooky Was a Mico-Mini Pig

Winter Wonderland

Late in the afternoon of December 13th Ben and Mary came back from a trip to Phoenix with a tiny smelly pig. The poor little guy was barely breathing, lying in a filthy crate coated with diarrhea. The owners had been totally unprepared to have a pig and disliked Winter from the start after he bit their daughter while she was hand feeding him. That's when he got tossed in the crate and forgotten. They claim to not know how or when he got the large burn that brands his upper left side. Hmm, that seems sort of suspicious, doesn't it!



We were going through a very cold spell with lots of rain at that time, so we quickly settled Winter in the bathroom inside our Visitor Center and set about warming him up. Taryn spent the first night and early morning nursing Winter through a series of seizures, giving him subcutaneous fluids to get him hydrated and small bites of food although he wasn't much interested in eating. That morning Winter was taken to our vet where he was diagnosed as hypoglycemic (low blood sugar)



and hypothermic (low body core temperature). He was given more subcutaneous fluids at the clinic which we continued for a few days after he returned to the sanctuary. He didn't eat much at first but gradually began to pick up an appetite. These days Winter is like most pigs....a bottomless pit that is always hungry!

Winter spent his first three weeks with us living in the bathroom where he could stay warm while he built up his strength and put on some weight. He had toys to play with and lots of blankets to root around in inside his



cozy bathroom. Even though he had a crate to sleep in, we would most often find him wrapped in some blankets which he would stuff behind the toilet. That was a space where he felt safe, I suppose! When the weather permitted Winter went into the backyard of the Visitor Center for short periods throughout the day. He loved being out there but could never stay long because it was so cold.



Winter's skin is very flaky which may be due to the malnutrition and dehydration he had suffered through. We are giving him Vitamin E/Selenium supplements as well as rubbing Vitamin E oil directly onto his skin. He also takes a children's multivitamin. Despite what horrible shape he was in at first, Winter made a quick turn around and is doing great now. On January 5th he went back to the vet for a recheck as well as to get neutered. While he was recovering from his surgery the weather got warmer and Winter was moved to one of our holding pens where new

arrivals stay before going out into one of the fields. At least once a day he gets a turn to go out into the exercise yard to run and play. He likes visiting with the other pigs through the fencing.



Winter gets so excited by everything he sees! He loves getting belly rubs and pets from

people, but when he is out in the yard it is sometimes hard to get him to slow down long enough to do that. He just gallops off to discover some other fun thing to look at or check out what another pig is doing in their pen. We've let him have his yard time with a few of the older pigs on occasion but will not mix him with any of the younger ones until he is older and able to defend himself if necessary. He'll continue living in a holding pen for a while until he is big and strong enough to join a herd in one of the fields. Winter is now five months old but is still small for his age. He is a very sweet boy and very lucky. It's doubtful he would have survived

even one more day in the hands of the horrid people who owned him. But today and every day from now on will be a Winter Wonderland full of love and adventure for him!

--- Donna



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Our Wish List

- Postage Stamps (Forever, Post Card Stamps, 49 and 35 cents) Other denominations can also be used
- Used Blankets are always welcome →
- Peanut Butter, CREAMY ONLY
- Acid Reducer, Ranitidine 150mg
- Probiotics
- Children's Multivitamins, NO IRON
- Vitamin B Complex
- Mucinex

Thanks to all of you we have received a lot of donated blankets this year. Even though winter is almost over, we still need more. They are used all year round and we are always stocking up for the next cold season.

GIFT CARDS

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|--------------|---------|
| Walgreen's | Discover | Walmart | Target |
| Home Depot | MasterCard | Amazon | Fry's |
| Lowe's | Office Max | Office Depot | Staples |

We have a wish list on [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com). They offer free shipping on many items if you sign up for Amazon Prime.

*Blankets NOT to give a pig and why:

- 1) Some pigs shred their blankets for nesting so electric blankets can be dangerous due to the wires and plastic parts.
- 2) Since some pigs are shredders, down comforters can be very messy and pigs can get feathers stuck in their eyes and nose or inhale them.
- 3) Afghans can become leg traps if a pig gets their foot/leg stuck in the holes and trips or falls.
- 4) Snugglies....cute but dangerous when a pig gets a leg or head stuck in the sleeves.

Think like a nesting pig when choosing blankets.



Planned Giving

Thank you for considering the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary in your estate plans.

Creating a will is an essential part of securing your legacy and your family's future. Without a will or trust, state laws will determine how your estate is distributed and your wishes may not be fulfilled as you intend. By thoughtfully constructing an estate plan, you can ensure that your family and your legacy are protected, as you desire.

A gift by will, also known as a bequest, is an easy and flexible way to make a meaningful contribution to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Let your legacy reflect your heart. If your heart is in the animal rescue and care work of the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, a bequest will ensure that future generations of needy pigs will receive vital support.

Sanctuary Sustainers Urgently Needed

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

By joining as a sanctuary sustainer, a monthly contribution, be it \$1 or \$100, will be charged to your credit or debit card. The amount, which is determined by you, will be there each month to care for the animals. To sign up, just fill out the form on the enclosed reply envelope and indicate your monthly contribution. Or if you prefer, go to the Support page of our website at www.ironwoodpigs.org and make your monthly donation by PayPal.

Thank you for caring!

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

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



Pigs' Health Issues

When having a pig in the family, people might be surprised with the different health issues a pig can have. While all of these issues may not be typical or happen often, it is possible that they come up and of course treating a pig is quite different than treating a smaller animal. I'm often asked what kinds of medical issues pigs get, so I thought I would bring up some of the more common ones we see here.

A big issue with pigs, which is similar to cats and dogs, is the need for oral care. We can't brush everyone's teeth or take everyone in for a dental as often as we would like to. Plaque builds up quickly with these guys and as they age teeth can fall out or if



Nellie's Head Tilt

there are issues they can get infected teeth or pockets in their mouths. We do monitor the way our pigs eat and take them in for dentals as we notice any difficulty for them. They often get teeth pulled which sometimes ends up



Dixie Lee's Mast Cell Cancer

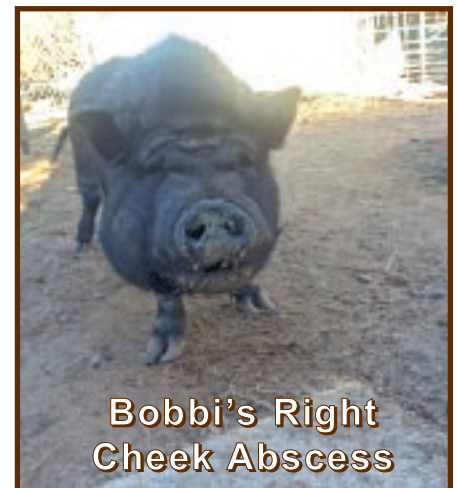
being a bigger deal than what it sounds like. Recently we have had pigs with fistulas. These are like tunnels from the oral cavity to another part of the face, which can take a long time to heal.

Another common issue we see is abscesses. They can often get these around their jaws but sometimes on different parts of their bodies. They come in different sizes and usually contain pus and will require treatment as well as antibiotics. Jaw abscesses, often a result of tusk infections, can cause osteomyelitis in the jaw which we see fairly often. Several of our boys develop this, which is diagnosed through x-rays. The infected tusk cannot be removed in order to cure the infection. It can make eating difficult. These guys are kept on a routine of antibiotics long term and will often require softer food. We have found that eventually the osteomyelitis will soften their jaw to the point of disintegration.



Healed

Lately we've been encountering an increase in ear infections among the pigs. A sign of an ear infection can be a tilted head. When we see this we clean out their ears to see if dirt might be the problem, as their ears can get dirty quite easily. This usually won't cause an infection but will cause them to tilt their head. With an inner ear infection we see the pig being off balance and in some cases not being able to walk straight. Initially this will make it difficult



Bobbi's Right Cheek Abscess

for them to eat and drink. Once we start treating them with antibiotics and anti-inflammatories they will begin to eat and drink normally again. Some recover soon with treatment but others can take weeks to fully recover and may have a permanent head tilt depending on the severity of the infection.

Pyometra and uterine tumors are very common among female pigs that are not spayed. Female pigs go into heat monthly, which in itself is quite an issue. They can be very pushy and even aggressive when in heat. If they are left unsplayed too long and a tumor develops this can make the surgery and recovery more difficult. If not spayed and a uterine tumor develops, it will eventually be fatal if not removed. Pyometra can also be fatal if left untreated. This is an infection inside the uterus and is also common in dogs. Signs of this can be fever and discharge coming from the pig's vulva. So if someone has a pig that is not spayed they need to keep an eye out for these signs as both conditions are very serious.

As they age pigs will tend to get arthritis. Some get it younger than others and some won't show



Lily Mae's Uterine Tumor

signs until they are in their teens. This can also be diagnosed with x-rays. Depending on the severity different drugs are available to help with pain and inflammation. Making the pigs' living space easier to get around in -----also helps. Sometimes we will have to

On-Site Staff Member Needed



The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has an opening for an animal care worker to live on site at the sanctuary. We are located near Marana, AZ in a rural area northwest of Tucson. If you care deeply about animals and are interested in caring for pot-bellied pigs, please send your resume with contact information to Ben at IronwoodJobs@yahoo.com or leave a message at 520-575-8469. Accommodations are a self-contained 5th wheel trailer. You would need your own reliable transportation.

make a ramp into their house or add a cutout to their pool that makes it easier to get in and out of.

Another big issue that more people are seeing is cancer. We have seen different types of cancer with our pigs here at the sanctuary. What's really tricky here is you will not see signs of it right away. We

often see liver cancer among our pigs but of course cancer comes in different forms and effects different organs. Once diagnosed, treatment of course depends on the severity and the progression of the cancer. We have had pigs that have had mast cell cancer

externally that moves quickly and we keep them comfortable until they let us know they are ready. It's hard to treat cancer in pigs especially as veterinarians are still learning more about it with pigs.

The issues that pigs can develop can be difficult for us to deal with. It can be even more difficult for other people with a pet pig to deal with when they don't have an experienced vet nearby or the help that can be needed to treat their pig. We're still learning as we go and always keeping an eye out for how our pigs are doing.

---Taryn

Sponsor a S



Lucy

My mean family listed me on Craigslist as "the horrible pet you can eat." Can you believe that?! Thank goodness I ended up here instead of on someone's dinner table!



Carnie

I had a family that loved me but the neighbors filed a complaint with the HOA who forced me to leave. It's really not fair! I'm a good girl and am nice to everyone.



Perdy

Next month will be my 8th birthday since I came to Ironwood Pigs. Just a few months ago I was looking for my sponsor. Please help me celebrate my 8th birthday with new parents!

Five of the pigs shown here had sponsors for several years but all lost theirs for various reasons this past winter. Please help them as well as our newer arrivals find new "parents". In exchange



Donna & Smalls

for your \$30 monthly support, you will receive a letter with your pig's background along with photos. Later in the year you will get an update with new pictures to keep you connected to your pig.



Abner

My parents got divorced and my dad was having trouble taking care of me and my sister on his own. I'm here though! It's cool to have other pigs to hang out with!

Special Pig!



will be 8 years
to Ironwood.
months ago I lost
Please help me
8th anniversary as my



Charlene

I am one of the
"Peoria Pigs" you may
have read about before
in the newsletter. I'm
sort of shy but will try really
hard to be your friend if
you pick me!



Porky

When my owner was evicted, faced
with living in her car with three pigs,
she found us a home here. Now I
have lots of friends, freedom, food
and comfy places to nap.
Yep, I've got it made!



divorced and my dad
le taking care of me
his own. I like living
s cool having lots of
with.



Callie

I'm another victim of an HOA
eviction! I'd been there for 5 years
then new neighbors complained,
lawsuits were threatened and....here
I am missing my family.



Oliver

I've been here for over 5 years
after my family lost their home to
foreclosure, but I seem to have
trouble hanging on to a sponsor.
Is anyone looking for a long term
relationship?

Retirement Homes

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary will be celebrating its 15th anniversary later this spring. When we first began taking in pigs we provided large fields with lots of room for the pigs to roam. As years passed by the needs of those pigs began to change as they aged. Many became arthritic and unable to cope in such big spaces. Getting from one area of the field to another became a challenge. Dealing with the younger, stronger pigs that were arriving was too difficult. We realized that our senior pigs needed a smaller safer environment in which to spend their golden years.



Visitor Center Yard

Our first step towards accommodating the elderly pigs was fencing in a backyard at the Visitor Center which in the early years was used as living space for an onsite staff member. The yard has been used as a home for several pigs over the years but with a 5 pig maximum. At this time Petunia, Annie D., Leota and Squeaky call this yard home. Petunia was moved there because her blindness and the defensive



Annie D. & Petunia

attitude she developed to deal with it made life difficult for her even in one of the smaller fields. She never seemed to fit in with the herd and was unhappy. Being in the yard has given her a place where she feels comfortable and can cope with her disability much more easily. Annie D. and Leota came in from Spike's Field at different times, both due to age related joint problems. Squeaky, the latest addition to the foursome was moved from the Special Needs Field because of lameness due to arthritis. The four ladies have settled into a nice quiet life together. Petunia, who had such a hard time getting along with other pigs can often be found snuggled up in her house with Annie D. Squeaky also benefits from a relationship with Annie D., as they spend their mornings sunning together in the back of the yard. It's nice to see the new friendships developing as these girls have gotten to know one another.

The same type thing happened next door when we began using the backyard of another onsite home as a place for older pigs

needing special care. Arnold is currently sharing his shelter with Squeakers and Baby Troubles. He has made good friends with several pigs that have come to live in the backyard but are now no longer with us. Arnold always opens his heart and his home to those who come to fill those empty places. Lily, Pegasus and



Baby Troubles, Arnold & Squeakers

Ganesha were old friends in the Princess Field and were later happily reunited here in the yard. This yard is a little larger and can easily house 8 or 9 pigs especially since they don't require a lot of space in their condition.



Squeakers & Baby Troubles

Taryn, one of our onsite staff members utilizes her enclosed yard for five pigs with special physical needs. Belle suffered an



Ganesha, Pegasus & Lily

injury while living in the North Field and ended up with a slipped disk. To reduce the risk of reinjuring her back, she needed to be in a small area with fewer pigs. Rudy has severe balance problems and falls frequently. He would have a very difficult time dealing with the jostling hustle and bustle within a herd. Living in the yard with Ziggy, Nella, Belle and Purdy gives him a peaceful place to call home.

Setting up the backyards was just the beginning of meeting the needs of the older generation of pigs. Early in 2003 we built a small field just outside of the holding pens where new arrivals are kept for evaluation prior to being moved out into one of our 25 different fields. This area is called Assisted Living and was designed with the idea that these pigs could have all their needs met within a smaller space to limit their need to walk since nearly all were suffering from advanced cases of joint problems such as arthritis or elbow dysplasia. The houses are grouped near shade ramadas with pools, mud wallows and water bowls so the pigs can get comfortable without having to wander across the field to find

shade or water. There is also a barn where friends can sleep together. Because these pigs need extra care and more one on one attention, particularly during feeding time, we keep the population at less than 15 pigs.

Well, it didn't take long before we reached that maximum and the pigs out in the bigger fields weren't getting any younger. We also began to receive quite a few elderly pigs from owners. In 2005 with the generosity of Francis Schilling, a supporter of the sanctuary we were able to create Assisted Living Phase 2 which



was later subdivided to make a Phase 3 as well. These two areas have not only been a home for the older arthritic pigs over the years but have also provided a place for some younger pigs with special needs. Freddie, a resident of Phase 2 has been with us for four years. He came to Ironwood at the age of one with a variety of medical problems. Not only did he need constant supervision from us but he would never have been able to cope with the physical demands of being with a large herd in one of the regular fields. The pigs that live in Assisted Living Phases 1, 2 and 3 are checked on often throughout the day. Some of those pigs get extra

meals at lunchtime to keep their weight up, a common problem for older pigs. Others get medication 2 to 3 times during the day so a staff member is coming through to hand those out. All of them get served diluted juice and fruit in the afternoon since many don't get up to drink as often as they should without some encouragement. One of the last chores of the day is for a staff member to do what we call the "tuck ins" which is going through the areas where the senior pigs live to make sure that everyone is okay and settled for the night, in their houses with blankets during the cold weather or in the shade with water available during the hotter times of the year.

When we expanded several years ago and fenced in an additional six acres for the increasing load of incoming pigs, we used part of that acreage to create three smaller fields for those pigs that were sort of in the gray area of not quite needing the constant supervision provided in Phases 1,



2 and 3 but also not physically able to cope with a large herd. Those three fields are Assisted Living Phases 4, 5 and 6. These phases are like retirement homes for active seniors. These pigs are still independent but simply need



Phase IV

to be with others in similar physical condition so as not to be challenged or harassed by stronger pigs. Pigs like Roseanne, Pinky and Oompa have found their “safe place” in Phase 4 where they have lived for many years. Neil was picked on and beat up in his old field but found his haven in Phase 5 where he formed friendships with other pigs like Gracie and Bandit who just weren’t emotionally strong enough to deal with the bullying that can occur within the hierarchies of the large herds.



Phase VI

Phase 6 was a second choice for seven year old Tootie who could never get settled with the pigs in the field we first placed her in. She was constantly in fights and

was miserable. Now living with only four other pigs, Tootie is safe and happy and has become buddies with Cyrus. Not all of the pigs living in Phases 4, 5 and 6 are older but they all have either physical or emotional issues that can best be accommodated by living with a small group in a smaller area.

While the Assisted Living Fields have become homes for our elderly, physically disabled or emotionally needy pigs there comes a time when even that isn’t enough. As the pigs get into their late teens or in a few cases to 20 and beyond, some of them need an even quieter calmer environment. We have developed three hospice type homes for these pigs who are in need of more specialized care as well as needing less action and activity in their lives. In Hospice, Camelot and the Cat Shelter we have small groups of pigs living together who are all dealing with the crippling effects of arthritis. (Yes, the Cat Shelter is a home for pigs. It began its existence as a shelter for a few feral cats but when those kitties were placed at a cat rescue in exchange for taking 3 pigs, we redeveloped the space for our seniors.) Some of the pigs living in these three homes were moved there from the Assisted Living fields as their lives became more physically challenging. Others have come directly from their regular fields when things got too tough. Camelot now houses several residents from our Northwest Field. Benny, Ducky, Denzel,

Larry and Blanch all knew one another from their younger days in Northwest and have been reunited in Camelot. They have included Betsy, Noodles and Blitzen in their circle of friendship. This nice group lives



Cat Shelter

a peaceful life, sharing their time and their shelters with one another.

The Cat Shelter has also been a place of old friends meeting up once again as with Lois and Willow who both came from the Peoria Field at different times. New friendships have also been formed here. Just recently Shirley from the North Field was found in a house with Wilbur, originally from the Northeast Field. Wilbur has been a loner for as long as we’ve known him, even when he lived out in the bigger field. To see him cuddled up with Shirley was amazing! Alice and Penelope



Wilbur & Shirley



Alice & Penelope

have been living in the Cat Shelter for a long time and have this strange on again, off again relationship. They'll be inseparable for months on end then suddenly Alice is off living with Betty or in a house by



Alice & Betty

herself. Months will go by with them totally ignoring one another then we'll go out to feed one morning and find Alice and Penelope side by side with their heads poking out of their house. Once again the pair will be like Siamese twins, always next to one another.

Hospice has quite a mix of pigs



Hospice

from other fields. Duane from North, Dixie Lee from Main, Lily Mae from Phase 5, Ellie Mae from Special Needs and so on. Sarah and Wooly Bully are the only two that were moved in together from the same field. They are the only two pigs left from a little group in the Northwest Field that had been best buddies forever, all happily crammed into one house for many years. When Wooly Bully became weakened from illness and needed to be moved, there was no way we could leave Sarah alone out there. She came with him to Hospice and the two settled down inside the barn. By the way, Wooly Bully made a remarkable recovery and is doing well while Sarah's health has declined more. Hospice is the perfect place for them to have the peace and quiet they need. Within the past few months a tough little dude named Vinnie who is also from the Northwest Field but had not been a part of Sarah and Wooly's group, began nosing in on the twosome. He was trying to be nonchalant about inching over into their space and really took his time with the process. Nowadays, Vinnie is happily sleeping beside the two friends but never gets between them. Even Vinnie knows where to draw the line!

Getting old is not easy for any species, pigs being no exception. Special accommodations must be provided....there is no getting around that issue. More individualized care



Vinnie, Sarah & Wooly Bully

is necessary....that can't be ignored. Special foods, more medication, watching that the mud wallows don't get too deep for the arthritic pigs to get out of,



Ellie Mae & Pals

cutting down the sides of the pools so they can step into them, adding more dirt in front of their houses after it wears down so there is not a big step down....the list is endless. The elderly pigs coming to Ironwood as well as those long time residents "retiring" from the big fields all need and deserve a comfortable safe place to finish their lives. You help us provide that for them. It is your donations, fund raisers, spreading the word to others and/or volunteering your time that makes it possible for us to keep pigs such as Sylvia, Bert, Amos, Zelda and Scout happy for the entirety of their lives.

---Donna

Front and Back Covers



On June 14th of 2015 we got a call from Karen Pomroy, President and Founder of Equine Voices, a rescue and sanctuary of horses. She said she had been called in the middle of the night by the Sheriff's Department to come get three emaciated horses

who were near death and had been abandoned by their owners in May. She said there was a remaining farm hog who had to be removed from the property that day. We are not equipped to transport farm hogs so the Pima County Sheriff's Department got him loaded with great difficulty and brought him to us. It was the middle of June so after a stressful loading and hauling for over an hour he was very overheated when he arrived. The animals were on about 5 acres so he had managed better than the horses to eat what vegetation was available. One of the officers told me they had managed to survive that long because there was a broken water line where they had been able to get water.

I just learned from Karen this awful person who starved his animals and left them to die was not prosecuted. The perpetrator of this horrible crime was not punished. A terrible injustice.

Churchill's coming to Ironwood was to be a temporary emergency fix since we don't usually rescue farm hogs. Karen had a friend with plenty of space for him. However, as with many animals arriving at Ironwood, he had issues especially with lameness. Dr. Page examined him the following day. Since his condition was stable we decided to put off additional routine vet care until he could be anesthetized safely. Due to the extreme heat in AZ it

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

Issue 69

It was the fall of 2004 when we got a call from someone in Kingman, AZ that a large rescue facility was being closed down and the animals were being confiscated. Among them were about 12 pigs. The dogs were being taken to other rescues but the pigs had nowhere to go. A rescue in Golden Valley, RUFF, decided she would take the pigs if we were able to help her. With the help of Roy and Patti, friends in Kingman who built the shelters and Ben and our good volunteer Bob, the shelters and pens were soon ready for Hillarie to take the pigs. But of course since none were separated before arriving to RUFF three litters were born and all the babies came to Ironwood to be spayed and neutered and to find homes.

Ben and Jerry were two of those babies and were soon adopted. Several years later during the recession Ben and Jerry were returned to us because their family lost their job and their home. However, they were extremely obese and it took over a year before the boys were up and walking around well. We lost our Ben a few months ago but Jerry continues to live happily here with his two other older companions. He is quite crippled but gets around well in his smaller field that we made for him and his companions. Jerry and others from those litters were crippled, no doubt from the inbreeding when the pigs were at the place that was closed.

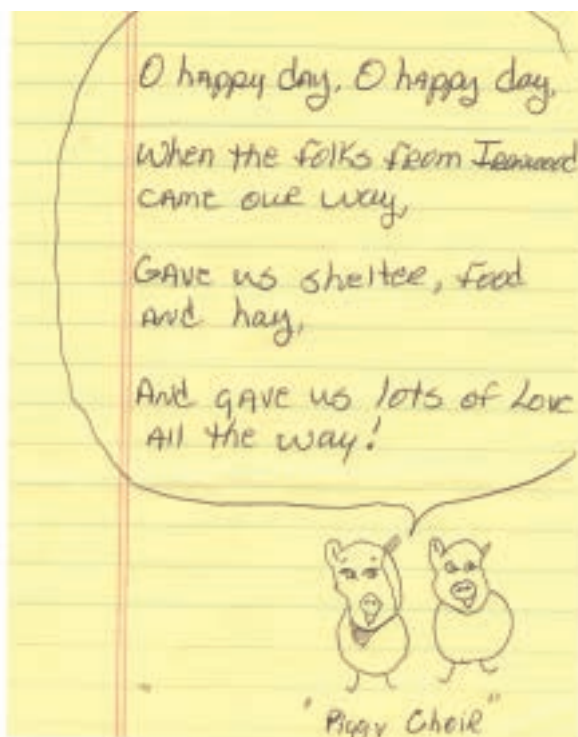
MISSION STATEMENT

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.

← Continued From Page 15

turned out we were not able to examine him under anesthesia until November. During the examination she trimmed his feet and tusks, checked his feet for any problems and determined that he had elbow dysplasia like most other pigs will get but usually at an older age. Knowing that he will need to be on medication to keep him comfortable and that his feet will need to be trimmed as needed, the decision to adopt him is now in question. He is a wonderfully sweet pig and loved by everyone here, so we continue to debate what in the long run would be best for his well being.



Dec 15, 2015

Dear Piggies

It was so nice to meet all of you sweet creatures. Enjoyed the Open House in November. It was my first visit. Hope you enjoyed the peanut butter, animal crackers & blankets. Next year will bring lots of treats to pass out on the tour. You are all blessed to have such wonderful people looking out for you guys. Bless them and all of you. I am so looking forward to the next year. The Open House was very nice.

*Merry Christmas
Love Peggy East*

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Jerry