

IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO 68

JANUARY
2016



Penelope

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

January 2016

Dear Supporter,

We are now on the threshold of a New Year. I hope the past year has been a good one for you and it will continue into the New Year. As I have thought about this coming year I have come across a few quotes from supporters and friends that I believe are worthy of passing on for your reflection.

“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” Jane Goodall

“All Kinds of Pigs
All Kinds of Reasons
They find a home here
where they live a full life
More Than Survival.”

Peggy Glover Couey
Shepherd’s Green Sanctuary, TN



These are simple concepts. Those of us at Ironwood have decided what kind of difference we want to make in the world by caring for all of the pigs who come through our gates. We feel that what we do makes an impact that is positive. Your support of our pigs says you too have decided what kind of difference you want to make for those who cannot repay you. Thank you so much and I wish you a Happy Healthy New Year.

Sincerely

Mary Schanz
President and Co-Founder

PS I want to express to you how grateful we are to have received so many of your year end donations of financial support, boxes bearing gifts for the pigs, and beautiful Holiday Cards and notes of encouragement from so many of you. We get our strength from your support that is passed on to our pigs who do have a life that is “More Than Survival.”

Adoptions

Adoption: Think, Research and Plan before you commit to adopting!

This has been a good year for adoptions here at Ironwood. Thirty-two pigs have found new homes. This is however, partly because Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah was able to give us a lift and take a total of twelve of our young pigs. I trust them to screen well and place them in good homes as they become available.

Adopting our pigs is not easy. We love them all individually and want the best for them. Placing a pig is much different than placing a dog or a cat. Most people are familiar with dogs and cats all of their lives. They know more about what the needs of a companion dog or cat are as well as how to care for them and what to expect from their behavior. Not so with a pig. We get many calls from people who want to know if we have any “tea cup” or “micro mini” pigs. The answer of course is yes, but they now weigh 120 to 150 pounds! You are welcome to come and see them. These are, of course, all the “micro mini” pigs that have been released to us that have been purchased from a breeder and have then grown up. But they are not always released just because they have gotten big. No matter the size, a pig is a pig and people have no idea what they are in for.



Clementine & Millie

Alysa and her family came to visit the sanctuary to adopt a friend for their pig Remington. They were preapproved by Donna since Remington was one of her newest pigs needing a hoof trim. They picked out Clementine, one of Jezebel's babies mentioned before and Millie, one of Polly's babies. Polly arrived with her eight babies shortly after Jezebel had given birth. Polly was also a stray and her babies were only a few weeks older than Jezebel's babies. We soon mixed them with each other and they became friends. They now have a wonderful home and Remington is trying to decide what he is to think about two little girl friends.

So what are Ironwood's requirements and what do we look for when we adopt a pig to a new home? First and most importantly, is the possible adopter zoned to own a pot belly pig? Second and equally important, is there a veterinarian who will treat your pigs within a reasonable distance from where you live and what about hoof and tusk trimming? Can someone be located to do that job that is so important for the well being of your pigs? People contact us from places like Lake Havasu City or Yuma who want to adopt but there are no vets there that can be found that treat pot belly pigs. We adopted two to a wonderful family in Yuma a couple of years ago without planning ahead for trimming and vet care. This family has now contacted us for trimming and we cannot help them. Like us and all other animals they do get sick and they need a skilled veterinarian.

Next, with very few exceptions, we will not adopt a pig to a one pig family. While I know there will be objections to this policy, we stand by it. After nearly 15 years of experience we know that pigs are herd animals and love the company of one another. After all, it is all about the well being of the pigs. Single pigs most often become aggressive. In all these years of rescuing pigs and the many calls we get to take aggressive pigs, 100% of the time

those calls come from people with only one pig. Our goal is to have happy pigs and happy companion people. While pigs in homes is an artificial environment at best, we at least try to make it a little more liking to their natural instincts.

What we look for in their new home is pretty basic for any companion animal. They must have shade, shelter and water at all times of day. In this hot Arizona climate they need to have a wallow and/or swimming pool in addition to their water bowls. They must have secure fencing and security from dogs when the owners are not home. And most importantly they must have space to move around in. This has really moved up the list of importance for me. Most pigs released to us lived in an inadequate space. While I realize it is not possible to provide a pig's natural environment, they also must not be in a tiny area. Having said that, we do not adopt to indoor only pigs or to people who have a perfectly landscaped yard and prevent their pigs from doing what is natural for them, which is to root around in the ground. I always tell people to think of themselves being locked up in a 10 x12 pen for their entire life. Factory farms do that and it should be illegal.

Below are two e-mails among dozens that we get from people who buy pigs and are not informed or were misinformed about them. These are the reasons we ask people to come for a visit to Ironwood to see what pigs need

and to learn about pigs and do their research before making the decision to adopt a pig as a companion. Forever loving homes do exist but there are not many of them.

These are direct quotes and in no way altered by me.

"Pigs are not the awesome pets that they're made out to be. "Mini" pigs don't exist. Our miniature pig now weights around 60-80 pounds and it eats everything and is destroying our yard and our lives. It is not good with children and is basically just a crappy pet and would be much better as ham and bacon. If you want the pig you just need to come pick it up. I don't care if you eat it, but you need to pretend that you're going to keep it as a pet when you're here as there are kids involved and I don't want anyone letting on that they are going to kill and eat their pet (even though they don't like it very much). Email me if interested. Also, if you feel bad for the pig, you can come get it and try to keep it as a pet, but it will ruin your life. You've been warned. Email me if interested."

This one is waiting for a home from us.

"... I was told that she is about 1 year old. I will be honest and say that I am absolutely not educated on pigs at all. She's my first and last and I just didn't know what I was doing or getting myself into, unfortunately."

Just last night we got a call from a man whose daughter bought a baby pig. The pig is 12 weeks old and she already does not want this baby because the pig bit her the first day.



Winter is the little pig we picked up on Sunday after the phone call to take him on Friday. He was terribly neglected and dying when we brought him home. He is now recovering quickly and becoming a healthy happy little guy.



Please note since we actually picked her up I can attest to the fact that Lucy is actually about 120 pounds and a very sweet pig in the right environment. Lucy is one of thousands of pigs who have ended up in homes where the people have no idea what they are getting and have been lied to by Breeders. Please do not buy a pig.

And now for the good news and the ones that have worked out because the people have been carefully screened and these pigs have pig companions and people who understand who they are and what they need.

Dawn and her husband came for a visit with the intention of adopting two pigs from us. So pending a yard check she had approval. Shortly thereafter we got a call for a release of a pig near them. They agreed to pick her up and keep her until we could come get her. They picked her up and fell in love with her. Not long after that we got a call for a pig who was a stray and in need of a home. She was brought to us and she had sustained a huge bite on the back of her neck and was in need of vet care. Once her wounds were healed Dawn agreed to take her as well. After some adjustment time the pigs were soon sharing their bed and have now become friends. Editors note: Daisy was overweight when the first people rescued her.



Daisy & Belle



Millie

Patsy

Kevin Bacon

Gloria came for a visit to look for a companion for her young pig Patsy who she felt was lonely. We went to do the yard check and quickly approved them for adoption. But we had two very sweet young pigs in need of a home. Buckwheat (AKA Millie) and Kevin Bacon. After some deliberation Gloria and her husband agreed to take both. It took some time and effort on the part of Gloria, but Patsy finally did decide she liked her new buddies and in time they were all three cuddled in Patsy's house together.



Elroy & Cupcake

Elroy was adopted to a wonderful home in Phoenix that he shares with Cupcake who was also a rescued pig. He was a stray who came and went from a lady's property for almost a year and she fed him when he came around. After he was attacked by dogs he was afraid to come out from under her house except to eat. We were able to catch him and bring him to Ironwood for his care. Now he has a great home with Cupcake and loves his companion people as well. No more living on the streets or being attacked by dogs for Elroy.

Both Chantilly and Jessica and six others were born here at Ironwood on June 6th to Jezebel. Jezebel was one of six pigs we picked up from an Animal Control facility in CA and she arrived pregnant. Both of the girls were born with deformed feet that our vet was able to make some improvements to. We were so lucky to have the good folks at the Backyard Barnyard happy to adopt them even with their special needs.



Chantilly & Jessica

Continued on Page 15

SARAH

Hi everyone, my name is Sarah. Some of you may know me as Sarah and Woolly Bully. Woolly Bully is my best friend. He keeps me warm every night and knows when I need my space. We came to Ironwood from a different sanctuary. I didn't hang out with him at first, but after one of my friends passed away Woolly Bully moved in with me and he's been there for me ever since.

Woolly Bully and I first lived in a field called Northwest. We stayed



there for a long time. We slept in a big red house together and enjoyed keeping things low key. As we've gotten older it was too hard to get around a big field. Separately, we moved into Hospice. When we saw each other again there was so much relief.

I know the name Hospice might sound a little sad, but for us it means extra juice among other things like fruit before bedtime. We sleep in the barn in Hospice



with our friend Vinnie and a newcomer, Millie. Millie is the newest one to the Hospice area. She's quiet and also knows how to wrap herself up in the blankets. She seems ok as long as she doesn't try to steal my blankets. She usually stays on her side of the barn and that's how we'll keep it for now.

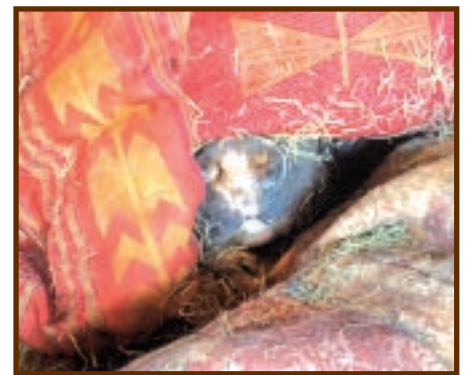
Woolly usually wakes up before me. He often leaves the barn to sunbathe with the others. When breakfast arrives he comes back



into the barn. We eat breakfast with Millie. I'm always the first one done so I get juice first. Sometimes I don't want too much so I push the bowl away. The people still try to give me more so I have to really push it so they know that I'm done.



We usually just hang out in the barn for the rest of the day. If it's not too hot or cold I'll lie down outside, otherwise I prefer my blankets in the barn. Sometimes



Ellie Mae, another girl in Hospice, tries to come into the barn. That's when I raise my mohawk really high and let her know that there is no vacancy.

Later in the day the people come back with fruit and more juice. They usually have to wake me up



but once I know what's going on I'm ready for treats. Once I'm done it's right back to my blankets. Wouldn't you like it if



you could be wrapped up in comfy blankets all the time?

Soon after our treats another person comes by and looks at us. We sure do get looked at a lot. This person also closes our barn doors though and says goodnight. Then Wooly Bully, Vinnie and I snuggle a little closer and close our eyes for the night.

---Sarah

Open House 2015



Ironwood's annual Open House was a day of perfect weather, just right for touring the facilities and visiting with the pigs. We had almost 500 visitors this year not only from the Tucson/Phoenix areas but also from around the country. Some of our supporters planned their vacations to include a visit here. Others made a special trip here just to attend Open House. One couple came all the way from New Jersey to meet the pig they sponsor. We love it that so many of you make the effort to come and meet the pigs!

All our visitors were able to take a tour of the sanctuary and meet a lot of pigs including Ziggy, Asia and Axel who took turns being the "mascots" hanging out up front to greet everyone. We welcomed



a lot of familiar faces as well as many new ones who we'll hopefully see again. There was plenty of great food prepared by some of our staff and volunteers.



If you were not able to make it this time, make your plans for next year. Open House is held every November. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped to make the day a huge success. A big thank you also goes out to all of you visitors, supporters and sponsors who brought donations, treats and enjoyment for all our pigs!

---Donna

Sponsor a S



Piglet

My family hated me and made me live in a crate inside a small room off the garage. I hardly ever got to come out. You better believe I'm happy to be living out in a big field these days!



Amelia

I was dumped in a rural public park about an hour away from the sanctuary. Thank goodness the park staff that found me already knew about this place and got help right away!



Thelma

My sister Louise rescue facility that our owner got too. That place she now at Ironwood the last

There are so many pigs that need your support. All presented here, with the exception of Wilbur are fairly new to Ironwood and have never had a sponsor. A \$30 monthly donation will help cover the basic needs for your pig. In return you will receive a letter with your pig's background along with photos. Later in the year you'll get an update with new pictures to keep you connected to your pig.



Donna & Mojo Jojo

Please join our family of sponsors and become a "pig parent" today! What a fun way to start off the New Year!
---Donna



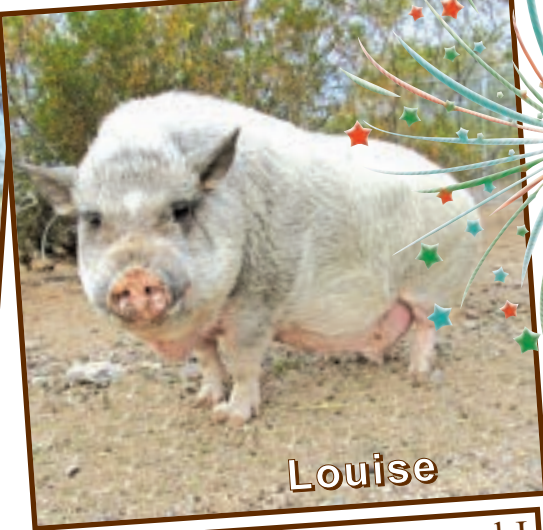
Wilbur

I've lived here for several years. I became my sponsor last year. I want to begin the New Year as a Sponsor! That would be a great start!

Special Pig!

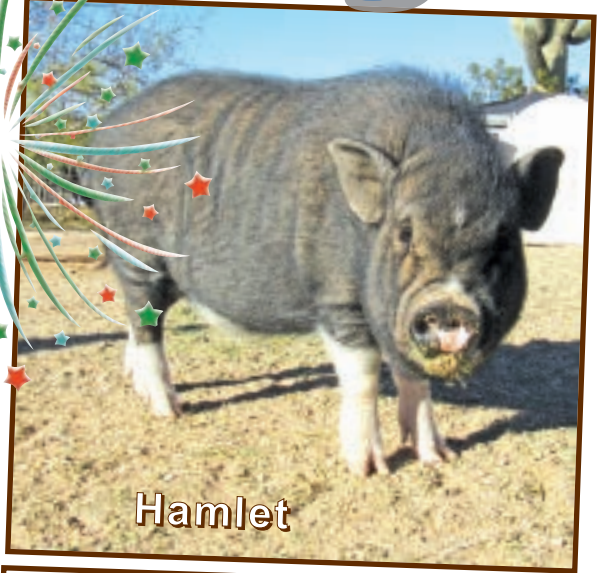


ise and I came from a
that took us in when
too old to care for us.
shut down so we're
Ironwood, hopefully
st move for us!



Louise

I am so glad that Thelma and I live here where we can get the proper care we need. Can you believe no one had ever trimmed our hooves before! They were crazy long, but not anymore!



Hamlet

My mom moved way up north and had me come stay at Ironwood for a while. She was going to have me shipped out to her but later decided it would be better for me to stay here. I love it!



several years but lost
ear. I would love to
Year with a New
ould kick 2016 off to



Jeni

I was dumped in the same park as Amelia and had to live like a wild pig until some nice people took me home. Later they found Ironwood and were able to get me a home here. Boy, did I get lucky!



Max

My dad ran into some financial difficulties and had to move out of his house. The plan was for me to board here at Ironwood until he found a home for us but things didn't work out so I'm here to stay.

Which Wilbur Was That?

Think about the fact that Ironwood has been open for over 14½ years then consider the vast number of pigs that have passed through the gate....literally hundreds and hundreds of pigs. A lot of pigs with a lot of different names but sometimes with the same names



Phase II Wilbur

as others. When pigs arrive without a name, we always try to



Main Wilbur

come up with something unique that we've not had before....Huratio, Eloise, Bertha, Jameson, Chantilly and Vaughn just to name a few. But when a pig is released to us already having a name, there is always the chance that we have another pig



Cat Shelter Wilbur

with that same name. Some names you would think are one of a kind but we do get repeats. For instance, Piggie Smalls. A couple of years ago we got our first



Assisted Living Wilbur

Piggie Smalls and thought it was unusual. The owner explained there was a rapper named Biggie Smalls that the name was derived from. This musician passed away



Northeast Wilbur

in 1997, so who would have thought that we'd now have 3 young pigs with that name! The



Princess Wilbur

other two boys spell it Piggie Smalls but still....!

The all time winner for the most popular pig name is....any guesses? **WILBUR!** We currently have eight Wilburs at Ironwood but there have been many others who have passed away over the years. Why so many Wilburs? It's most likely



North Wilbur

from the book Charlotte's Web. Wilbur was the pig in the story that befriends a spider named Charlotte. We use these boys' field names to help identify them for record keeping or when we're talking about an individual pig.

There is Cat Shelter Wilbur, Phase 2 Wilbur, Main Wilbur, Northeast Wilbur, Assisted Living Wilbur, Princess Wilbur, North Wilbur and Special Needs East Wilbur. Our vet hates when we do this, by the way. It gets confusing for the medical charts at the clinic. In the



SN East Wilbur

past we had renamed some Wilburs that came in to Will, William and Willie. There are only so many ways you can play with that one though.

The most popular girl's name is Charlotte although Penelope runs a close second. We only have five Charlottes currently but there was a time when it seemed like we had



Big Charlotte Sunset

a Charlotte in every field. Sometimes there are two Charlottes in the same field as is the case in Sunset Field. We have Big Charlotte and Little Charlotte there. Main Field used to have two girls named Charlotte. One of them had her ear bitten off by a



Little Charlotte Sunset

dog before coming here, so we called her One-Eared Charlotte. Okay, not very feminine but we knew which one we were referring to! Once we got a young girl named Charlotte in. We figured she didn't know her name very well at that age so we changed it to Charmaine.



One-Eared Charlotte

The Penelopes got confusing at one point because there were so many of them but that has lessened because we're down to



A.L. Charlotte



North Charlotte

only five currently. Once we got two released to us around the same time. One we called Penelope White and the other was Penelope Black. That worked nicely for identification purposes while they were living in the holding pens where new arrivals go. Later Penelope White was moved to the Northwest Field where there was already another Penelope who was also white. We ended up going with Penelope #1 and Penelope #2.

Other popular names for pigs that we have seen quite a few of over the years are Hamlet, Miss Piggy and Princess. We still have 3 by the name of Hamlet, 4 with Miss Piggy and 2 named Princess. We love it when a new pig comes in with a different name so it doesn't add to the confusion.

No matter what names these pigs arrive with or end up with, it would not be possible to continue taking them in or caring for them without your support. It's your generosity that enables us to keep making room for all the Wilburs and Charlottes out there. You are their hero! Thank you!

---Donna



Planned Giving

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

Ironwood has been the recipient of bequests from many generous supporters. These donors have received personal satisfaction by providing for the continued mission of the Sanctuary.

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 box 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.

FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Fry's Food Stores is a chain of supermarkets located in Arizona. Like many stores, they have a V.I.P. card customers can use to get lower prices on their purchases. Another benefit to using the card is helping organizations like Ironwood get monetary rewards from the company. Simply go online at www.frysfood.com and register your card number to create an account. Then select "Mary Schanz Foundation dba Ironwood Pig Sanctuary." Every time you shop at Fry's just scan your card at the register and a percentage of your purchases will be donated to the sanctuary quarterly. It's a super easy way to give! **Just remember that you must update your organization selection yearly for Ironwood to continue benefiting from this program.** Each year on the date of your enrollment just log into your account and pick Ironwood again as the recipient of your community rewards.

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All your packages are a great help and much appreciated!

Front and Back Covers



Back in August of 2009 Ben and I drove up to a beautiful home in a gated community in Scottsdale, Arizona to pick up Penelope. Like so many others during the horrible recession even some of the rich were forced to leave their homes behind and move. Penelope had

a big grassy back yard and wore a small ruby earring in her ear. She was five years old and had been quite spoiled.

Not long after her arrival at Ironwood a client of Donna's who had recently lost one of their pigs came for a visit. They immediately fell for Penelope who was such a big loveable girl. So Penelope got a new home in Tucson with Abner. She and Abner lived there for the next six years until the summer of 2015 when the couple separated due to a divorce and the home was being sold. Ben and I went to pick up both Penelope and Abner.

Abner has settled into his new field pretty well, but Penelope is showing signs of depression. We plan to move her in closer to the center of activity. We hope she will find this more to her liking where there is more interaction with people. For some pigs who have been spoiled all their lives, the sanctuary life can be a hard adjustment, but we are confident we will find the best possible place to her liking for Penelope here at Ironwood.



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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

Issue 68

In June of 2010 we got a call from a dog rescue in Phoenix who had just confiscated some dogs in Ashfork, AZ and yes, they had confiscated two pigs as well. The property had been abandoned and the animals were left behind and were starving. One pig was found dead. Patrick had been attacked by a dog but had survived and so had Corky, his son. So when the Rescue called us to take the pigs, of course we said yes.

After a period of recovery and getting neutered we released both of them to our Princess Field. Corky is nearly blind, and while we don't know what caused his blindness, he manages quite well in his field. As you see he continues to hang out with his dad. Corky eats in a feeding pen since he could not compete in the troughs with the others, but he has learned his way around the field and finds his pen each morning.

They are both pretty rough looking with their wrinkled skin and Patrick's tattered ear. The wrinkles are not from a big loss of weight. I have heard there is a bred of pigs who have this wrinkled skin much like a Shar-Pei.

Unlike Penelope, Patrick and Corky are both very happy and content to live in their large field. While they don't like human attention much, they have settled down a lot and are much more approachable. We hope they have long forgotten their horrible beginning.

Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Postage Stamps (Forever, Post Card Stamps, 49 and 35 cents) Other denominations can also be used
Used Blankets are always welcome →
Vitamin E, 400 IU only
Acid Reducer, Ranitidine 150mg
Children's Multivitamins, NO IRON
Mucinex

Open House donations included a lot of blankets (thanks, everyone!) but it will not be enough to get the pigs through the winter. It's predicted to be a cold, wet winter this year so we'll need more blankets to keep the pigs comfortable.

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. 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) Snuggies....cute but dangerous when a pig gets a leg or head stuck in the sleeves.

Think like a nesting pig when choosing blankets.

BLANKET & DONATION DROP OFFS

It's cold here in Arizona so collecting blankets for winter is a priority. This winter is expected to be colder and wetter than normal so we will need more blankets. We never seem to have enough and really need your help. For those of you in the Phoenix and Tucson areas there are four drop off locations for your convenience to save on shipping charges for blankets and other items from our wish list. Please note that no monetary donations can be accepted here. All other material donations are very welcome and much appreciated - don't forget the blankets.

For the Phoenix area you may drop donations off at Susan's in North Phoenix near E Union Hills Dr and N Cave Creek Rd. Call her at **602-339-6213** for directions. Also Carolyn's in East Mesa near Superstition Springs Mall. You may call **480-981-8069** for directions. For the Tucson area you may drop items off at Sherry's in Southeast Tucson near Swan Rd and 22nd St. Call her at **520-622-6304** for directions. Also Ben's in Northwest Tucson near N Oracle Rd and W Hardy Rd. Call him at **520-631-6015** for directions.

We appreciate all your support!

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.



Amy

Amy is a wonderful example of senior pigs being able to get a new forever home as well as the younger ones. Amy came to us along with Doc and Wyatt who were adopted from us as babies. All three were casualties of the recession when their person lost his job and his home. Amy was his Mom's pig that he kept when his mom passed away. I always felt sorry for her since she clearly wanted more attention than we were able to provide for her. When Christine lost her beloved Alvin who was in his 20's, she wanted a companion for her Raisinette. That did not work out too well, but Amy still has a great home with Christine. Senior pigs make wonderful companions also.

Thank You

I don't want to start the New Year without thanking so many people who are our regular volunteers and have helped us get through 2015, another big and busy year here at Ironwood. Thanks so much to Barbara Lange, dj Roseli, Barbara and Bruce DuPlisse, Donna Scoggin, Laura, Bob, Joan, Linda and Lourdes who work hard each week opening the mail, copying the checks and making deposits, making cards, and writing the many thank you notes that you receive. They also rake poops, help with feeding, cut up fruit, do the dishes, make juices, clean the Visitor Center, sheet the pens, do the laundry, sew our blankets together and so many other jobs that need to be done here.

Also thanks to Stefanie and Julia who come to volunteer for a week, and Michael and Trish, Tina, Kerry, Mirza and Jelena, Jeanie and Diane, and all who came to help prepare for or helped out on the day of the Open House. Of course I want to remember Sherry for all the baking she did and John and Francie and Lori for the wonderful vegan food provided by them for the Open House.



Alice & Morley

Morley was a little guy who a lady from Phoenix saved from slaughter by buying him from his previous owner. Shona was looking for a companion for her young pig Alice who was beginning to show signs of aggression, as many single pigs do. Morley's sweet and gentle personality fit well with young Alice and as you see over time they became very close friends.

And there are many others: Dana, Kristie and Barbara for produce, bake sales, garage sales, and the groups who come for a day and work hard to help clean up.

I know I have forgotten to mention some who have helped, but please know that all the work and love all of the volunteers give us each year is so appreciated. The work is never done here and all of you help us give better care to our wonderful pigs here at Ironwood.

With Gratitude,
---Mary

←
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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Father and Son - Patrick and Corky