

Issue 3

February 2003



Ironwood Pig Sanctuary
34656 E. Crystal Visions Road
Marana, AZ 85653

February 10, 2003

Dear Supporter,

The holidays are behind us and we are starting a new year at the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. I would like to begin this newsletter on a note of thanks. We at Ironwood have been truly humbled by the many ways people have supported our efforts. We appreciate everything that has been done for the sanctuary and the resident piggies. Without all of you, our pigs would not have the nice home and good care they now enjoy. It is as simple as that. Thanks!

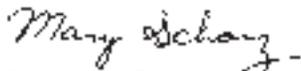
This April will mark two years since we broke ground at our sanctuary. We have come a very long way since Donna moved in with no water, power, air conditioning, lights, or refrigerator. She only had a cooler for her food, a lantern, five gallon containers of water, and an outhouse. But Ironwood has become a cozy home for Donna, our new temporary employee Margarita, two dogs, two cats, one goat and 250 potbellied pigs and one hog. And, of course, Ben and me and our two dogs when we are there, which is most of the time. The main facility is now in place, but we continue to evolve to meet our needs.

The field divisions we spoke about in the last newsletter to separate the existing herds from the new arrivals are nearly completed. Our next major project is the expansion of our exercise yard. We have spent a great deal of time and effort winterizing our pigs' shelters with wood chips, blankets, and carpet doors to keep out the cold and wind. It will be no time before we take the carpets off and put the shade cloth back up!! And guess what, our new barn is almost finished!

Over this past year we have had some dark days worrying if we would ever receive enough public support to take care of all these pigs. We have tried promoting boarding of pigs and have written many grant requests with not enough success. But as we have evolved, your support with volunteering, moral support, and donations has increased to the point where we think the light ahead is the end of the tunnel and not a train heading our way! It will still take at least another year before we completely cover our expenses but the trend is encouraging.

We look forward to the new year and hope that many of our new friends will come to visit, and our old friends will come back to rub some bellies and yes, help us with some of the many chores here at Ironwood.

Sincerely,



Mary C. Schanz
President



Oreo Mary

P.S. It gives me great pleasure to take a stroll around Ironwood and see all the happy pigs contentedly grazing on hay or hanging out with their friends.

In Memory of Priscilla

We love all of our pigs, every one. Our dedication to provide a safe and secure home to the more than 250 pigs in our care comes from this love. When a pig comes to us that has been abused either overtly or from neglect our hearts are particularly touched.

Priscilla came to us from a rental property in Phoenix in early December. The property was vacant and the owner would stop by intermittently to provide her food and water. Her shelter was minimal and her skin showed the sores and scaling of a long summer with too much sun exposure. But Priscilla's main problem was that she had a huge uterine tumor. We immediately took her to our vet, Dr Page, to determine what we needed to do to save Priscilla's life.

As it turned out, her skin, even though it looked bad, was not the problem. The uterine tumor was so large, estimated at 23 pounds, that it drained the life from her. The nutrition that she was able to obtain mostly went to feed the tumor. She had virtually no fat on her body, which is very unusual for a pot bellied pig.

Our hearts went out to Priscilla and we all wanted to help her have a better life. She was such a sweet pig and very gentle. She loved belly rubs and never grumbled about her fate. Dr Page advised us that we needed to spay her as soon as possible to remove the tumor. She subsequently scheduled an appointment just two weeks before Christmas to perform the spay.

Priscilla refused to use an igloo shelter during the cold days in December. She dug a hole near the fence in her pen into which we placed a number of blankets so she could snuggle into them for warmth. We knew that this would be an unacceptable place for her during her recovery from her spaying. She needed someplace warm, particularly the first night.

Jim Zimmerman, one of our supporters and volunteers, had a small playhouse he had built for his granddaughter some years before and, since it

was no longer used, donated it to Ironwood. We were going to use it for grain storage.

I don't know who had the great idea, but someone thought that the house Jim donated would be the perfect shelter for her. In order for Priscilla to get used to the house, we moved her in a couple of days



before the planned spay. Well, she loved it immediately. It was just the place for her. She snuggled into the pile of blankets and wood chips and relaxed. This is where she died, 12 hours after the spaying. Her ravaged body could not stand the trauma from the operation. We had two heating pads and many blankets along with a light for warmth. She was checked every two hours, with her body temperature measured each time. She was gradually improving but died sometime between the 11p.m. and 1 a.m. check.

We were terribly saddened that we were denied the pleasure of giving her the quality of life she deserved. During the spay we trimmed her hooves, cleaned her eyes and ears and even trimmed her small tusks. She was ready to start her new life.

Goodbye Priscilla, may you rest in peace.

Meet Our Pigs

BERNIE

Bernie is an adorable 3 year old pig that was released to us in July by his owners along with four other pigs. The family was in a rental home and had been told by their landlord that the pigs had to go or the family would be evicted. We neutered Bernie early in the fall and later moved him to the new north field with 15 other pigs. He had a hard time adjusting to life within a herd. He is a loner and spent much of his time secluded near the back corner of the field. At each meal, we had to go find him and coax him in to eat. After nearly a month, Bernie now has chosen a shelter near the front of the field and even shares the other side of the duplex with two other pigs. He eats his meals from the trough with the others and is more comfortable with the company of other pigs. Bernie is a real sweetheart and would make a great pet for someone who needs a pig to love.

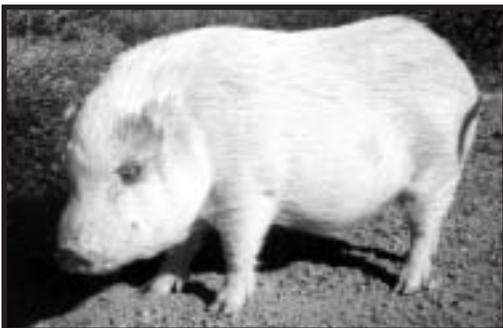


PORGY



Porgy is a good example of why having an unneutered male pot bellied pig for a pet is not always easy. He became increasingly aggressive toward his owners and their other animals. After attacking the family horse, which resulted in numerous stitches, we were called to take Porgy last March. For weeks after arriving at Ironwood, Porgy would lunge at the fence whenever anyone approached him. Now that he has been neutered you would never guess he's the same pig! Porgy is a quiet, gentle pig residing in the main field with our largest herd, content with being petted and getting hand fed treats. There has not been a sign of aggression from him since his release into the field. He is a very sweet animal that has found his place in our hearts.

JESSE AND AARON



These two brothers were found wandering in a rural neighborhood where a couple managed to contain them in their yard. They did not want to keep the pigs but were concerned about their safety. Ironwood was called to take them in August, where they have since been neutered and had their hooves and tusks trimmed.



Aaron and Jesse were moved to the field in late September but had a very difficult time fitting in with the large herd. They are very shy and would not compete for food. Both had been in numerous fights, became lame and had to be put on medication. As soon as we had the new northeast field fenced in and shelters built, the brothers were moved there along with 9 other pigs with similar temperament. Both boys have adapted perfectly with this small herd. They eat from the troughs with the others, sleep in the shelter of their choice and have both recovered from their lameness. Aaron and Jesse are happy and content in their new home.

Grand Opening

Let me introduce myself - I am Jacqui Eckert, the Volunteer Coordinator for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. I have spoken with many of you on the phone and had the pleasure to meet you at our Grand Opening.

Saturday November 2nd marked a wonderful day for all of us at the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. The day started with a visit by the news crew from Channel 4. April Brown and her camera man did a great story about the sanctuary. Mary and Donna were the costars while all our wonderful piggies were the headliners. After that, we were ready for our Grand Opening and so were the pigs! IT WAS AWESOME!!!! The turn out was more than we had hoped for. We estimated that there were over 80 visitors. Mary and Donna conducted tours from that morning until dark, while Ben directed traffic in our parking lot, and Bob and I manned the visitors center. We were able to offer a vegan buffet for the day for our human guests, while our pigs were given lots of love and attention and treats by our wonderful visitors. The loving, positive attention shown our animals that day had a lasting effect. Our pigs now come out in record numbers when a group visits. It was a lot of hard work but just to see the piggies



Visitors Enjoying our Vegetarian Lunch

soaking up all the attention and love was beyond words. All of the staff and volunteers noticed the remarkable change almost immediately. The pigs knew that EVERYONE was there for them. We had visitors from California, northern Arizona, New Mexico, and points in between.

A lot of caring and generous people made it a great success by coming out to our sanctuary and learning about our pigs and what is involved in the daily care of such sweet animals. We made lots of new friends and reacquainted with some old but dear friends too. Such generosity and caring did us humans good too. That day was a great boost to our morale. We were able to set up adoptions for a few pigs to good homes, get a few pigs sponsored and we received some great donations. Most of all we have some more wonderful volunteers who have made our sanctuary and pigs very happy.

Thanks to all of you who participated and we hope our Open House in November will be even more of a great success. I thank you for all your efforts on behalf of our animals and sanctuary, and I look forward to talking with you all soon. --- Jacqui



Visitors On One of Mary's Tours

Thanks, Herb!

Our pigs owe a huge, warm thank you to one of our dedicated volunteers. Herb comes to the sanctuary almost every Friday at 7:00 a.m. to help with the feeding and watering then stays to do other necessary chores. However, what the pigs are most thankful for are all the blankets that Herb brings on each visit. He has faithfully picked up a big load of donated blankets from Good Will every week. The pigs absolutely adore their blankets and have stayed warm and cozy this winter due to Herb's help.



Employees Needed

Our great employee, Margarita, is only working at Ironwood for the winter season on her way from Colorado to Oregon. As hard as it will be, we need someone to replace her. The new employee will receive a small salary and have the use of a private room with bath at the sanctuary and share the kitchen of the visitor center for 40 hours of work a week.

We also need another worker for 40 hours a week who will not live on site.

Anyone interested in these positions please call.



Aussie Greeting our Many Visitors

Our Visit to the Farmers' Market

As volunteer coordinator for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, part of my mission is to let the public know about our pigs and what we do and how you can help. We are excited and pleased to be a part of the Rincon Valley Farmers' Market. Our first Saturday out there on Old Spanish Trail - past Saguaro National Monument was December 7th 2002. One of our volunteers, Sara Menineke, and I went out there bright and early to set up. We were able to meet some true animal lovers and caring people and to let people know about our sanctuary. Much thanks to Roberta Vanderslice and Molly Eglin for all their efforts on our behalf. We also made contact with an organic fruit farmer past Wilcox who allowed us to glean his fields for our pigs. THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!! All in all it was a good day for getting the word out about our sanctuary. Come on out and have a look. It is a great farmers' market with lots of crafts and organic produce, good food, and great folks. The third Saturday of the month is when we will be set up along with other animal organizations. It is a great way to spend a Saturday morning and we look forward to seeing you there. -- Jacqui

Our Many Volunteers

As we continue to grow volunteers become ever more important to us. They help us with projects we could not accomplish alone, like loading and hauling the playhouse (our new grain barn) to Ironwood. We have really grown to depend on them. Some like Bob F., Bob W., Herb, Jim, Cindy,



Montessori Students

and Lisa, and Rachel come regularly and others come to help with special projects or make it a community effort for their organization or group. Please excuse me for not naming everyone who has helped but the list has grown quite long. But none the less we appreciate your help. These are but a few of the things they help with: building projects at the facility, hauling trash and water, helping to feed, water and rake and the back breaking job of hauling rocks out of our fields. They also help with neuter days, picking up bread and produce for the piggies, picking up rescue pigs, helping to glean apple orchards and pick up melons for the pigs, getting ready for winter by putting out bedding and blankets and putting up carpet, writing thank you



Bob, Mary, and Herb Cleaning Up

notes and helping with mailings and tabling at the Farmers' Market. We ALWAYS need more volunteers. It is a long drive to our remote desert location from anywhere, but even if you have just one day a month to come to volunteer it means a lot to us. So don't be shy, we can put you to work.

I would like to give a special thanks to Gary Haraldsen, our friend from California, who came for four days to help build our barn. He along with Jim, Bob, and Ben were able to

complete the framework and roof in those few days. We could not have done it without him.

Also a special thanks goes to Lis Gibson for her great Ironwood Pig Sanctuary sign! A photo of the sign is now our mast head. Lis, you did a great job particularly capturing the essence of our logo.

We have welcomed the pre-vet students from the University of Arizona who have come twice to learn and assist with hoof and tusk trimming and vaccinations. Thank you Dr. Page for coming out and volunteering your time to instruct them.

Also six of the children from the Montessori School made it their community project to come help us at Ironwood. They and their parents came for one week and scrubbed all our swimming pools for winter storage,



Dr Page And Pre Vet Students

picked up sticks and raked the fields, put wood chips out for bedding, and many other jobs. I hope we are on their list for next year. They were a great help.

The Hands With the Heart group, consisting of youth between 10 and 13, volunteered for a day. Thank you for all your help.

We also hosted the Youth Evaluation Treatment Centers youth for a day's volunteering visit. They performed a lot of heavy work and enjoyed the day in the country.

Please give us a call if you or your organization would like to help. There is always something you can do. — Mary



Gary & Ben

Pigs Without Parents!



Aaron
A.J.
Amos



Dixie Lee
Ebby
Ellie Mae
Elliot
Elvis



Ernie
Franklin



Anita
Annie
Arnie
Arnold
Baby



General
Georgia
Glory
Grandma-
Moses
Gretel



Baldwin

Bandit
Bernie



Hank
Harley



Betsy
Betty Boop
Blackjack
Bobbie



Bradley
Buster
Charlotte
Chelsea
Chesney
Chorizo



Harriet
Hondie
Iggy
Inky
Jackson

Jesse

Collie
Daisy Mae
Daley
Danny Ray
Desiree



Jethro
Jimmy-
Dean
Kevin
Kris

Latasha
Laverne
Little Pig
Loretta
Louie
Louise
Lucille



Precious
Pumba
Regina
Roger
Sammy
Sassy
Scout

Mamacita
Mel
Milton
Miss Saigon
Molly
Mr. Pibb
Mr. Pigg
Obie
Oliver
Otis
Pammie
Pearl

Owners, for a variety of reasons, have abandoned many of the pigs at the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Most of these are loving animals that miss their home and would love to have a sponsor. I will send you updates and pictures of your pig throughout your sponsorship. A contribution of \$30 a month will cover all your pig's expenses including food and health care. Listed are just a few of the pigs needing parents. Choose one of them or send me a description (male, female, young, old, special needs, etc.) and I'll send you a picture with background information.

Thank you for making a difference!
Donna

Shirley
Stanley
Sweet Pea
Tallulah
Tillie
Tucker
Valentine
Waylon
Wilbur
Will
Wilma
Wilma- Jean

Sponsor One of our Sweet Pigs!

Pete
Petunia
Piggy
Piggy Sue
Popeye
Porky



Winston
Zena

And There
are Many
More.....



Ways to Help the Sanctuary

Add Your Friends to our Mailing List

Do your friends and relatives a favor by adding them to our mailing list so that they can receive their own newsletter. Place their name and address in the enclosed return envelope.

Double Your Donation

Many employers will match your donations to a public charity. The Mary C. Schanz Foundation operates the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary and is a 501(c)(3) charity. Check with your Human Resources Department for the procedure for your company. Thank you for helping.

OUR WISH LIST

Please let us know if you have any of the following items to donate:

Any size Dog Igloo Shelter but extra large and giant preferred. All sizes of Wading Pools and Turtle Sand Boxes to be used for water for the coming summer season. Water hoses. Two axle Trailer with 6000 # load capacity needed for hauling water. Digital Camera. 35mm Film. Well equipped First Aid kit for volunteers and workers. The following materials for shelters: Corrugated Roofing, 1/2 inch plywood, 4"X4"X8' treated lumber, 2"X4"X8' and 2"X6"X16' lumber.

eScrip

Donating Money the Easy Way!

Every time you make a purchase from an eScrip member merchant the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary will receive a donation from the merchant up to 5% of your purchase. The member merchants include restaurants, drugstores, car rental, airlines, hardware stores, mail order, hotels, motels, specialty and grocery stores ... and more. Some of the merchants are: Safeway, Wild Oats, Office Max, Vons, Chevron, Eddie Bauer, Pep Boys, Big 5, American Airlines, and Working Assets.

Please sign up by visiting www.escrip.com or call us at (520) 575-8469 or write to us and we will send you an enrollment form. Our Group ID is **150540842**. The name of the group is The Mary C. Schanz Foundation which operates the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Everyone can join, so be sure to tell all your family and friends. Thank you for all of your help!

United Way

You can make donations to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary through United Way at your work place. Just request that you want your donation to go to The Mary C. Schanz Foundation which operates the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary and is a 501(c)(3) public charity.

SYLVIA

Sylvia is a beautiful gray pig that came to us from Pima County Animal Control. She was just a few months old and had been picked up near the University of Arizona. She was very shy and Donna spent a lot of time with her to get her tame. A family came to visit the sanctuary and ended up adopting Sylvia. Unfortunately, she was attacked by a dog at her new home and suffered severe damage to the muscles of her front legs. She was not able to walk and had to crawl around the yard. When her new family was not able to take care of her she was brought back to the sanctuary in September where she had to undergo exercise sessions three times a day to regain the use and strength of her legs. At first, Sylvia could barely stand and could only walk a few steps before collapsing. After weeks of physical therapy, she is now walking and running all around the yard on her own. Sylvia's story definitely has a happy ending and we're very proud of her success!



Visit Our Web Site!

Our web site address is:
www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org
 Click on "News" to view and download past newsletters.

For Their Comfort and Safety

If there is one thing we know about pigs it is that they like their comforts. But don't we all. But what they need for comfort is also for their safety. They need to keep warm in winter and cool in summer. Pigs do not sweat and have no way to dissipate the extra body heat from their bodies. Therefore, they need wading pools and mud wallows and plenty of shade. In the winter they will seek out the sunny places to warm their bodies and nest at night in their blankets and shelters. We provide wood chips and many blankets for nesting and carpet doors for their shelters. And of course they love the comfort of each other. So if you have a pig as a companion please be sure you provide plenty of shade, shelter, water and when possible company. They need all of these things for their well being and safety.



Spike Cooling Off

PIG BOARDING

When we began Ironwood, there were many ideas of how to obtain funding to support our dream of providing a home for the many unwanted pot bellied pigs. One of our ideas was to provide boarding facilities for pigs with all proceeds going directly



Mr. Muddonna in His Coat

into the sanctuary. After checking with other local boarding kennels, it was found that few would even take pigs and those that would didn't have adequate facilities. We have enjoyed having several boarding

pigs in the past and currently have 4 staying with us for an extended period. All boarders have their own pen with shade, shelter and pools along with access



Roi, Delta and Sally

to the exercise yard where they have plenty of room to explore their surroundings. These boarders have not only found their way to Ironwood but also found their way into our hearts! If you or someone you know needs to board a pig for a few days or for a longer period of time, please give us a call.



Phoebe in the Exercise Yard



Ben Working on the Barn

A Word About Mailing Lists

I would like to take a little space here to talk about the dreaded topic of mailings. “Where did you get my name?” and “Don’t sell or give my name to anyone else” are comments we hear from time to time. I too am on what seems like hundreds of lists. I used to give to many animal and environmental organizations until I became one of the founders of my own sanctuary and I continue to get hundreds of appeals yearly. It is truly upsetting to get so many appeals when we all have limited resources and there are so many causes. It can be a source of personal distress when we are only able to help in a limited way.

But there is a flip side to that coin. We are a small grassroots organization and when we started to acquire a mailing list less than a year ago we had so few names that there was no hope of supporting our growing population of pigs. Our mailing list has now grown over the last year by doing mailings from lists acquired from other animal organizations and we hope to see it grow more over this next year.

You may not agree with acquiring lists but, in truth, we only exist today and hope to continue to thrive because these other organizations have been willing to sell us their mailing list. They have been our life blood and as they benefit from our purchase they pass the blood of life onto us.

So if you like and care about animals, and I know you do or you would not be reading this newsletter, I hope you will understand that YOU are the reason we are able to take these homeless animals in and provide a home for them, and it is those pesky letters that arrive in your mail box that makes it all possible. And let me tell you when I hear the contented grunts resonate throughout our herd after they have finished a good meal I know they are saying thank you. I smile and say you are welcome. --- Mary



Alice Helping With a Mailing

Future of the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has rapidly grown over the past two years. It was only June of 2001 when we took in our first pig. Her name is Claire and she is doing great. Today we have over 250 pigs and a waiting list of over 20 with the calls to take in more pigs continuing. We estimate that we can adequately care for 324 pigs with our 6 acre field and 24 holding pens which means at the current rate of 100 pigs a year we will need to enclose a new 5 acre field north of our existing field before the end of 2003. We currently have 40 acres with 10 being developed for our pigs and our infrastructure. There may be hope for a limit in the number of pigs requiring our sanctuary. We have seen a subtle change in the past few months. We are getting calls for neutered males and some spayed females where as most of the calls were for un-neutered males. In any case we are prepared to expand our facilities to take in more pigs as long as we are able to adequately care for them.



Anna

If you have adopted one of our pigs we would like to hear from you. Send us a picture and a story about your pig and we will print your story in one of our newsletters.



Lucky

Checkout our Web Site at
www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org

Every Saturday is a Volunteer Work Day

We always have plenty of work to do at Ironwood. Getting ready for summer, or winter, or adding shelters, or waterers to accommodate new arrivals. Cleaning up, feeding bread or produce, helping with regular feeding, watering, doing repairs, or socializing our pigs. Come out to Ironwood and get to know us and our pigs. We can use any skill so don't be shy.

If you prefer to stay in Tucson we also need office help which includes data entry, organization, filing, typing and mailings. If you want to help please give us a call: 520-631-6015/631-5851.



Jim's Donated Barn: Jim with Mary and Donna

Ironwood

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary** is a pot bellied pig rescue, sanctuary and adoption facility. We provide a safe home for mistreated, unwanted, or rescued pigs.

MISSION

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary** is dedicated to eliminating the suffering of pot bellied pigs by promoting spaying and neutering, assisting owners and sanctuaries, and providing a permanent home in a safe nurturing environment for those that are abandoned, abused, neglected, or unwanted.

FACILITIES

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in November of 2000 in Marana, Arizona, a rural community northwest of Tucson, as a result of the overpopulation of other sanctuaries in Arizona. Our sanctuary consists of 40 acres with 10 being developed exclusively for pot bellied pigs and the remaining 30 serving as a buffer or for future growth. Recently released or rescued pigs are housed in one of 24 holding pens in order to give us the opportunity to evaluate new arrivals, treat them for specific wounds or illnesses and provide the pigs time to acclimate to a different environment and to each other through the safety of fencing. Over time, the pigs are transferred from their holding pens to a 6 acre field where they can mingle with the herd yet still have plenty of room to find their own space when wanted. Individual and sharable shelters as well as mud wallows and pools are available in all areas.

ADOPTIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Ironwood also places pigs in adoptive homes. All prospective “parents” are screened. We want to be sure that these lovable creatures are a welcome part of the family.

Ironwood has a number of resident pigs that have personality problems, have been abused or are too old to be adopted. Pigs not adoptable will live out their lives at the sanctuary. You can help them by sponsoring your favorite resident pig! A contribution of \$30 a month pays for all your pig’s expenses. Your sponsorship gives you all the background information available on your pig, including a photo, and periodic updates. Visit your very own pig as often as you like. They always like company and, of course, those special treats you bring.

RESCUES

Ironwood accepts calls to rescue pot bellied pigs found wandering in neighborhoods or in the desert, those left in community shelters and any who are abused or abandoned by their owners. We also receive pigs from owners who are no longer able to care for them.

BOARDING

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary** has a boarding facility exclusively for pot bellied pigs that provides a peaceful setting away from the trauma of barking dogs and other stressful conditions that can occur at other boarding kennels. Please call for more information about our boarding program.

SUPPORT

Even if you can’t adopt or sponsor one of our pigs, you can always come out and help. We always have an extra pooper-scooper or you can help with one of our ongoing projects or just give tummy rubs!

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS

