

IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO 57

MARCH
2014



Coco

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

March 2014

Dear Supporter,

Welcome back to your next visit to our sanctuary. Every two months we come into your home and beckon you to visit our home with all our pig residents running around living their daily lives plus all the newbies who may never have seen another pig since they left their litter exploring their new environment, talking, fence fighting, and foaming with great excitement. It is such fun to witness their first meeting with another pig. We also have one sheep and various pets who live here with their seven human companions who live on site at Ironwood.

One of our supporters wrote: "Hello to all, Hope you are all keeping well. I love your magazine. It is such a joy to read and see you all as you work with the pigs. They are such beautiful animals and their stories are wonderful. I look forward to it so much." She sounded like she was almost right here and could actually experience life here at the sanctuary. I was very pleased to read that note and so many others that come to us.

Many of you will never have an opportunity to visit our pigs in person, so it is our goal to be as transparent as possible and pull you into all the details of life here at the sanctuary. All of our detail articles about feeding, watering, trimming, making meds, special foods, afternoon juice runs and so many others keep you informed over time about how the pigs are cared for here and how much effort it takes to really provide a good home for our residents.

I feel from your many notes, cards and all manner of support that our visits to your home from ours has built a relationship with us. This is our goal.

Your relationship with our pigs and the support you give them is what makes it work. You are as much a part of the whole as are we. You can see from the stories and faces of the pigs that they like this relationship that has happened on their behalf. Thank you from them and from us.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz
President and CoFounder



Mary and Henry

Henry Bien is a cute 1 year old recent arrival.

Daphne

Daphne is an adorable little lady who came to the sanctuary on September 14, 2004 along with her sister Fiona. The two girls had been abandoned and left to wander the neighborhood. Concerned about their safety, one of the home owners called to see if we would come get them.



Daphne and Fiona had a very close relationship and were the best of friends. They rarely spent time with other pigs, preferring only the company of each other. That changed just a few months before Fiona died. The sisters began hanging out with two old friends, Willow and Lois. The



Daphne and Lois

four of them started sharing a shelter and were often seen napping together under a favorite

bush. When Fiona passed away in June of 2013, Daphne had Willow and Lois to help her deal with her grief.

The vast majority of pigs truly value the friendships they develop with other pigs and come to depend on one another for comfort and companionship. Daphne had a special relationship with her sister but was lucky to have established new friends before Fiona was gone. During the past five or so months, Daphne has become more social



Daphne and Bertha

than ever before. She still loves spending time with Lois and Willow but can often be found resting with any number of "the ladies" that are all family members from a rescue we did in Peoria nearly six years ago. It is obvious that Daphne does not want to be alone. She seeks out other pigs, wanting and needing that closeness she had with Fiona. She'll probably never have the sort of deep friendship she shared with her sister, but Daphne has certainly found pigs that love her and have opened their circle of



friends to allow her in. And why not! She is such a sweetheart with a lot of love to share. Who wouldn't want to be Daphne's friend! ---Donna

Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson, Phoenix and surrounding areas can contact Donna Thomason for pot-bellied pig tusk and hoof trimming. Donna is an experienced trimmer living on site at Ironwood. Donna provides house calls for pig and goat trims. Please call 520-780-8832 or e-mail hoofandtusk@yahoo.com to set up an appointment.



Barbara

The Volunteer Who Does It All!

Barbara has always been an animal advocate. After reading an article in the local newspaper about someone volunteering at Ironwood, she thought it sounded like something she wanted to learn more about. At the annual Animal Fair in Tucson, Barbara found a booth displaying information about the sanctuary. There she was introduced to Mary, got directions on how to get to Ironwood and got on board the volunteer train!

After seven years of volunteering for us, Barbara has added many cars to her train. She is invaluable in the home office in Tucson. There she is busy making copies of the donation checks for data entry. Barbara prepares the deposit tickets and even takes that to the bank each week to make the



deposit. She also sorts all the credit card receipts according to date and card then works with Ben to reconcile each credit card account. These activities take an average of 5-6 hours each week.



Once a year Barbara updates the credit card log which is a very tedious task taking about two weeks to accomplish...not much fun involved there but a very necessary chore.

Barbara is also a whiz at making greeting cards using pictures of our pigs. We always have a variety of birthday, get well, thank you, etc. cards for sale at the Visitor Center at Ironwood. Barbara keeps Mary and me supplied with cute cards to send out to supporters and sponsors for special occasions or for special donation notes. If you have attended our Open Houses held each November, you might have seen or bought sets of piggy Christmas cards prepared by Barbara. She makes all of these cards at her own expense on her own time and they are always adorable!

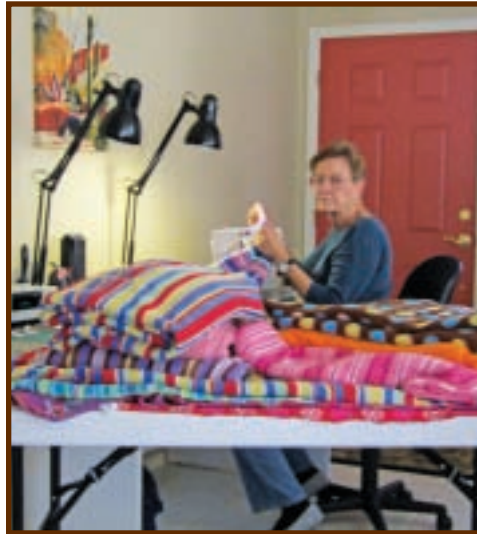
At our annual Open House we have a table set up with the sanctuary t-shirts, hats and cards for sell. Barbara always organizes and handles the sale of these items. That includes getting everything out on the table early



that morning, staying at the table all day to sell to our visitors then packing up the leftovers at the end of the day. This year, she came in the day before to sort and fold t-shirts to have them ready for display.



We get a lot of fleece blankets donated for the piggies. These are really soft and warm but are too small to be of much benefit to the pigs. Barbara, as well as Cindy and Loretta, two other volunteers take these blankets and sew them into double layers. Then two doubled pieces are sewn side by side with extra stitching across the length to prevent ballooning creating the perfect piggy sized fleece blanket. Barbara has sewn a lot of these for us over the past few years.



get an extra cookie or two when the others aren't looking! Afterward, she spends some time raking up piles at the known "hot spots" in various fields. We really appreciate her efforts toward cleaning up the fields.

Barbara is a tremendous help in so many ways and is so generous with her time and talents. We don't know what we would do without her! And to think it all started with her reading an article about the sanctuary in the newspaper. Thank you, Barbara, from all the staff and piggies of Ironwood!! We love you!

---Donna

in the desert, Barbara shows up at the sanctuary with big bags of carrots and fig newton cookies. The pigs are always so excited to see their friend Barbara coming! They gather round her as she hands out goodies to each piggy. She does have her favorites who



Barbara says the bright spot in her week is always Fridays. Every single Friday, unless it's raining which doesn't happen often here



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

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

Used Blankets are always welcome

*Cranberry Capsules Item #4363

*Flaxseed Capsules (1,000 mg)

*Glucosamine/Chondroitin (triple strength)

*Good value can be had at Puritan's Pride at 1-800-645-1030 or www.puritan.com. They offer free shipping for orders over \$100.

Rugby Zinc Oxide, available on Amazon.com

Fig Newtons - Generic OK - Not individually wrapped

BIG STUFF

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

GIFT CARDS

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

Our Wish List

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

Remember the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary In Your Will

Bequests can be a percentage of the estate, a specific dollar amount, a particular stock, bond or mutual fund portfolio, a piece of real estate, naming the Sanctuary as remainderman of the estate after providing for family and friends, or stipulating that the Sanctuary will benefit from a portion of the estate if certain beneficiaries predecease the donor.

The Mary C Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your Will please use both names, the post office address from the back cover and this tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483

Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to the almost 600 Pot Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated.

Apply For A Sanctuary Credit Card

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



Share your passion for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary and make donations with your everyday purchases. Just use our custom credit card and 2% of gas and grocery purchases and 1% of all other purchases made with the card will be donated to the Sanctuary. Plus, Ironwood will get a \$50 bonus donation when you make your first purchase. Apply today by visiting



www.CardLabConnect.com/ironwoodpigsanctuary

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 using our e-mail address ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com

AMAZON WISH LIST

Shopping on Amazon.com is an easy way to give to the sanctuary. We have numerous items on our Wish List already picked out so you'll know you are donating exactly what we need. The list is updated frequently so it's always current. Sometimes it's seasonal items or maybe a medication needed by one or two particular pigs. Many are things we use lots of every week. The Wish List makes it quick and simple. And if you're an Amazon Prime Member, two day shipping is free on many items!

On Amazon's Home page, click on "Wish List" in the top right corner and go to "Find a Wish List" then enter Ironwood Pig. Click on the "Ironwood Pig Sanctuary" and choose items from our list then click "Add to Cart".

Pumba & Jeff

When Pumba returned from our vet a few weeks ago after surgery he was feeling very under the weather and was not at all interested in getting up from his carrier. Jeff, his pen companion, was concerned about poor Pumba's condition and he came over to give him a little nudge to console him and to tell him that "all will be ok Pumba." By morning Pumba had gotten up from his carrier and was in his shelter lying next to Jeff. These two old guys have become close friends since they both arrived from our Annex facility for different illnesses.



Many years ago, back in 1999 when we began volunteering at what is now our Annex, Pumba lived down the street with his female companion. They would have litters of piglets and when the owners could not place them they would ask Lynnette, the owner of the Annex back then, to take them. She finally said just give them both to me so that is how Pumba arrived at the Annex.

Dr. Page neutered him at the Annex in the year 2000 so Pumba has been around a year or two for sure. Recently Pumba had developed a huge abscess on his neck and face, so we had taken him to our vet to have it lanced

and cleaned. Jeff is also recovering from his illness and has been gaining the weight he had lost. Once they have recovered they will both be released to our Special Needs East field. This field is occupied by other pigs who have been brought over from our Annex in need of more extensive care. They are all being reunited and renewing old friendships.

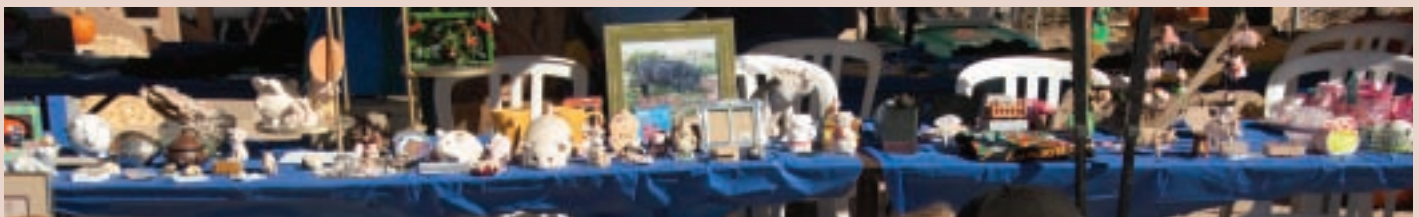
Again we see evidence of a social network we so often do not give our animal friends credit for. Just yesterday I put Pumba and Jeff and Hank and Claudia out in the exercise yard together. Hank and Claudia were brought from the Annex when it was still Pigs*A*Lot back in January of 2002 but Pumba and Jeff remained at our Annex until recently. Once in the exercise yard together there was no fighting and they all hung out together as if there had not been 11 years of separation.

---Mary



Pig Memorabilia Wanted

We had a very successful Open House this year particularly with selling the Pig Memorabilia that we had received as donations. There were many special items with a wide variety of styles. If you have pig mementos that are looking for a new home consider donating them to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary to be used at our next Open House. Thank you!



Sponsor a S



Cecil

My parents got divorced then ended up losing the house. There was nowhere for me to go until they called Ironwood to take me and my friend Joey. I miss my family, but I like it here too.



Titan

My brother Zeus and I were brought here a few years ago when our parents divorced, but we got adopted soon after. Our second family ran out of money and couldn't take care of us any longer.



I was living loose out wild, wild, west. At case until someone brought me to Ironwood. Steady chow and plenty water are keeping me

There are so many pigs that still need sponsors. Some are new arrivals, some have been with us for a while but never had a sponsor while others have lost their sponsors for various reasons. You can support the pig of your choice with a \$30 monthly donation to cover its care and its share of sanctuary expenses. You will receive photos and a letter about your pig as well as new pictures and updates during the year. We encourage you to become a member of our family of sponsors!

---Donna



I am one of r that are d stores to any unp comes a work ou familiar st



Uncle Albert



Special Pig!



Alexander

I was dropped out in the desert of the Ironwood. At least that was the name of the place. I was found by a woman named Daphne. She found me and she was very kind. She and her family found me and they were very happy to have me. I have plenty of friends here and I am very happy!



Ricky

Let's see... I was dropped off at the Ironwood Humane Society as a baby, came to Ironwood, got adopted but was recently returned when my family couldn't care for me anymore.



Daphne

I was brought here from another sanctuary that was shutting down. It was nice because all my friends got to come with me and we all still live together.



Paisley Mae

I was one of many little piggies that were dumped at feed stores. I was to be bought by just any unprepared person that came along. Things didn't work out, so here I am. My story, I'm sure.



Zeus

My brother Titan and I barely remember our first family. We miss our second family but are really glad that we keep ending up here. I heard we don't have to move again and can live here forever. Yea!



Belinda

Would you believe my owners put me in the car, drove up to some stranger's yard during the night, pushed me out the door then took off!? That was the scariest night of my life!

Who Is This Pig?

How can you tell them apart?!" This is probably one of the most common questions we receive at the sanctuary. With a field full of 40 black pigs it can seem difficult to know who each one is. People always say that the pigs all look the same and wonder how we know who everyone is. Well, it's not easy at first, but I tell people that once you begin learning who is who and seeing differences in the pigs that it all starts to get easier.



Lawrence Welk

When first learning who a pig is we look for big differences such as a large white spot on a black pig or a pink nose. Sometimes torn ears are a way to remember who someone is. Lawrence Welk and Jackie are good examples. These boys are in our Peoria Field. Both will come up for their morning medications and sit for you. When new to learning the pigs it can be quite easy to mistake one for the other. Then you start to notice things like Jackie having a small pink spot on his nose. However, if there is dirt



Jackie

on it you can't see the spot but he'll let you clean it off so you can be sure. This used to be the main way to tell these two apart. Recently Lawrence Welk has received a tear in his right ear from fighting which is a quicker way to tell them apart now, especially when Jackie's nose is dirty. Aside from physical characteristics it also helps to learn a pig's behavior or where they hang out in a field or even who they hang out with. While both boys are friendly Jackie is more pettable than Lawrence. Also, Lawrence can be found



Brazil

eating breakfast in the section of this field that we call Mary Evan's, while Jackie is usually found eating at the northern end of the field.

It's usually the black pigs that people have trouble with as there are many more of them in our population, but there are several white pigs that look similar.



Cindy

Cindy and Brazil are a pair that can be difficult to tell apart. These two reside in the same field as Jackie and Lawrence. Both girls hang out in the same area and you'll often see them pass you and wonder which one you just saw. These two are the same size and both have black spots over their eyes. There is one quick difference to notice. Brazil has a small black spot at the top of her nose, unlike Cindy who has one on the side. After looking at the two you start to notice a difference in their head shape. That might sound weird but after seeing several pigs who look alike

these small differences are a big deal! Also, Brazil will seek out attention and is more affectionate. For a while I thought I had been petting Cindy but learned otherwise.



Charlotte

In our North Field we have three girls that can be tricky to tell apart; Ethel, Charlotte and Olivia. When Charlotte and Olivia arrived we knew they were sisters and we suspect that Ethel is related to them as well. It's



Ethel

easiest to tell these three apart when they are all together but if they come up separately there are a few things to look for. Charlotte has more white on her face than the other two. Ethel has little spots on her nose and is shorter and stockier than the other two. It can be especially tricky with these girls as all can be friendly and pushy and all hang out on the

western end of our North Field.

We also have Gabe and Abel in our North Field who keep people on their thinking toes. These brothers came to us when they were very young. As they started to trust us Gabe would let us get close to him and eventually pet his head. This was the main way to tell who was who. We also noticed that Abel had a few, and I do mean few, white hairs on his forehead. This would work in the cooler months but once they lose their winter coats you can't rely on the hairs. The boys are continuing to grow and still look quite similar. Gabe is still a smidge more friendly than Abel but neither care to be petted or have their bellies rubbed. Abel has a slightly bigger belly than Gabe but that can be tricky to notice. These two are probably the hardest for people to tell apart and can often take a few sets of eyes to be sure.

When similar looking pigs are standing together it can be easier to tell them apart, but when you see them separately it can be a little more difficult. To make



Olivia



Abel

things worse a lot of the pigs lose their hair for the summer and don't look like themselves. Aside



Gabe

from any physical or behavioral observations that may help, pigs are great at learning their names. This can be very helpful when calling for a certain pig that has look-a-likes. It's fun learning the differences in all of the pigs. Everyone is different some way or another, and if you don't notice it they are likely to show you.

---Taryn

Aggression Revisited

Aggression in companion pigs has been discussed before in our newsletters. I am returning to this topic because these past few months it has become the number one reason for release of pigs to Ironwood and they are all the ONLY PIG in the family and all but one is young. People come to us interested in adoption and when I almost universally refuse to adopt only one pig they go elsewhere and buy a pig. This really bothers me because our mission, in part, is to give a home to pigs that are abandoned, abused, neglected and yes unwanted as well. However, taking in so many healthy young pigs, who often had a good home, to come live in a sanctuary setting does not seem quite right to me.

Here are some of the quotes from some recent e-mails:

“Hi, I am looking for some help with aggression in my 1 year 9 month old pot belly pig.” ...

“Scooby is a neutered male who has become aggressive toward my dogs and other people.” He was



referring to his daughter. Scooby had a wonderful home and was much loved.

“He is territorial, smart, and we really enjoy having him. His behavior has become more aggressive lately.” Speedo is another neutered pig from a beautiful home and folks who really cared about him.



“I have a 3 1/2 year old pot belly pig This last year she has become aggressive and nipped at people In the past few days she has literally plunged at me and tried to attack me. I am now finding I am scared of her”

“We were fully prepared for all the ins and outs of raising a pig but we weren’t quite prepared for her size or her aggression towards some people. She knocks over and bites my kids” The kids are 9 and 11, not that young, and he made the effort to bring her all the way from New Mexico.

This is my favorite but she did not ask us to take her pig. She was looking for advice. “I got him from ... a breeder in Houston, who grossly misrepresented the facts

about the pigs she breeds. He is 250+ pounds, but he is never the less loved. ...his aggression problem has become extreme. ...“

So the moral of this story is: Are the pigs bad or are the people bad? The answer is neither. Dr. Valarie Tynes has written quite a lot about the social behavior of the pig. She says it is her belief “that aggression in pet pot bellied pig is a complex, multifactorial problem. Contributing causes to be considered are: genetics, dominance status in the litter, early weaning, inappropriate human interaction, and the unnatural or unstimulating environment in which the pig is not allowed to express normal species typical behavior.” She further says “Pot bellied pig aggression towards humans is the behavior problem reported most to the author.” **“The pet pig that spends most of it’s time inside the house, without the presence of another pig, is unable to exhibit many of it’s species typical activities, including social behavior.”**



Socks and Eva in their wallows are examples of species typical behavior.

In Memory of William Johnson

Willie had been a friend of pigs for close to 20 years where for this period of time he picked up unwanted produce from a major local market twice a week and delivered this to a pot bellied pig sanctuary called Pigs*A*Lot that later became our Annex. In recent years Willie began delivering produce, day old bread, and other goodies twice a week to Ironwood. When he delivered produce he would always stay and help to prepare it for the pigs.



Willie enjoyed driving one of the water trucks and he would work with Ben getting water for the pigs from Red Rock making many trips during the summer when our water need was the greatest.

Biology/Zoology specializing in Herpetology, was an expert in fencing, and had a business using fiberglass to create large structures that looked like natural rocks. If you ever have the chance to visit Kartchner Caverns in Benson, AZ you will see Willie's fiberglass artwork at the entrance to this natural cave.

Willie passed away in January 2014. We miss him very much for his personality, his willingness to help and his crazy ways.



Willie was always willing to help out not only with produce but watering our many trees, repairing broken pipes from a winter freeze, and other jobs.



Before we knew Willie he had obtained a PhD in



There is no easy single solution, but I would say unequivocally do not have only one pig, do not have a pig that is always kept in the house, and do not even entertain having a pig without doing your research about a pig's behavior and what you must do to

avoid the aggression we so often see. I know most of our readers will never have a pig and I may anger many of those who read this who do have a pig as a companion animal. However we are the ones who get the sad and sometimes frantic calls and e-mails. By the time we are contacted it is usually too late. The people have been bitten, knocked down, or in some other way threatened by the sweet little pig they loved so much a few months earlier. As Dr. Tynes has said the aggression has to be prevented from the time the pig

comes into the home rather than trying to correct behavior that has gotten out of control. Please pass this important message on to all that you know who may be considering having a pig as a companion. They are wonderful animals indeed but don't be misled by misinformation.

We have enough truly neglected, abused and abandoned pigs to fill our sanctuary.

---Mary



Coco is one big potbelly pig. She is so slimmed down now it's almost hard to recognize her. Many years ago we adopted one of our sweet pigs, Ziggy, to a lady in Show Low, AZ. She lived there for six years and then in the summer of 2011 we got

a call from the owner who said she was moving to New York and could not take Ziggy along and by the way she had another 4 year old pig that was a hog. Well that put us off since we generally do not take hogs and how would we transport both of them from



Show Low. Before we could make the arrangements the owner moved to New York and left Coco and Ziggy with the folks renting her property. The renters called in the fall to say the cold weather was coming



and they needed to have the pigs moved to Ironwood. So we asked for a picture and found out Coco was not a hog but a very very large pot bellied pig. With that in mind two of our staff traveled to Show Low and



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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

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Wyatt and Doc were adopted from us when they were babies. On December 30th of 2007 we had taken in Bernadette, a very pregnant female. On January 1st her babies were born. Wyatt and Doc were two of her babies that were adopted in April 2008. They lived happily in their home with one other pig, Amy for nearly 4 years. Maybe too happily since they were pretty obese when we got them back. But like so many other casualties of the economic downturn Wyatt, Doc, and Amy lost their home, so they returned to Ironwood as adults. For quite some time they had difficulty getting around, but eventually they all lost weight and have been on medication for arthritis. Now they are ready to venture out of their pen in the Main Field and join the others who live in the field. They will always be able to return to Tombstone, the name we have given their little enclosure, at night or when they wish to retreat back home.

transported them both to Ironwood. It was pretty shocking to see how big and how fat she was. We were told she had been fed Old Roy dog food.

Well, that was over 2 years ago and now she is a mere image of herself. She has settled in well here at Ironwood. She does eat in a pen so she can't steal all her field companions' food, but she generally gets along well with her new friends. She is a big hit with the visitors who come for a visit as well. She and Ziggy are still good friends. We are very happy to have Coco and to have Ziggy back with us.

---Mary

MISSION STATEMENT

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

* Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is accredited by the American Sanctuary Association.

* The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible.

Donation Drop Offs in Phoenix and Tucson

We sure can use blankets since we are in short supply. For supporters in the Phoenix and Tucson areas you can save shipping charges by dropping off blankets at the locations below.

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

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

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

Can You Weld Our Wagons?



We have 3 wagons that we use for hauling special pig meals and other items that have failed in the area of their steering arms and wheel pivot



points. Are you a welder that could repair and reinforce the failures to keep them from failing again? These wagons are relatively heavy duty and their size is 4 ft by 2 ft. Please contact Ben at 520-631-6015 or ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com if you want to help. We do not have welding equipment at the Sanctuary.

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US POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
PERMIT NO. 2216

MARCH 2014
ISSUE 57

Return Service Requested
Published at the above address regularly.

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Wyatt

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