

IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO 65

JULY
2015



Govinda

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

July 2015

Dear Supporter,

I just finished reading a newsletter written by my friend Peggy Couey, who owns and operates Shepherds Green Sanctuary in TN. She spoke of Hope and a brighter world for all the pigs she featured in her newsletter. Her newsletter struck a common cord with me here at Ironwood. The stories have a thread of abandonment, abuse, neglect, family hardships and deaths and so many issues that commonly bring animals of all species to sanctuaries and rescues.

This July issue covers many pigs who now have hope for a brighter future indeed. Inky, whose horrific tale as told by Taryn, is now a happy healthy boy ready for all that life has to offer. My story of the six young pigs brought from Animal Control facilities in California no longer have to worry about time and space running out, which could have ended their young lives. And Jezebel's babies will also look forward to a full life ahead.

Govinda and his brother and many friends have long since crossed that threshold and are living out their lives in comfort and with companions.

These are the tales and stories of Hope that we here at Ironwood and so many hundreds or thousands of sanctuaries across the country and around the world hope to offer the animals that come to us no matter what their species.

There are millions more people who offer Hope to animals around the world who never have a single animal cross their doorstep. They fight for legislation and politicians who will support animal rights. They shun circuses and rodeos, horse and dog racing or buying animals from breeders. They don't wear fur, they eat compassionately and support organizations like ours.

We are in the trenches every day offering Hope to each pig who crosses our doorstep but so are you. You are the ones who give us hope. You make the financial sacrifices and help to spread the word of compassion to others and to your children.

It is a long bumpy road ahead, but Hope helps us to keep walking that road one step at a time, from sanctuary to protest lines to Capital Hill and all points in between.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz
President & Co-Founder



Mary with Arlo, Another of
our Stray Babies

California Rescue

Ironwood Reaches Out to Rescue Six Pigs in California

When an e-mail comes in with the subject matter “HELP” it can only mean one thing; more pigs in need of a home. We received this e-mail on April 3rd. Sure enough Ryan Long from Riverside County Department of Animal Services in California had seven pigs of various ages, sexes, and colors in need of placement. He was reaching out to organizations across the country to try to find placement for these pigs. All the pigs at the two facilities in the Riverside County Department



Cole

were strays. Napoleon and Cole arrived on February 3rd. Sioux, Milo and another female who was later adopted arrived on February 8th. Those five were at the Western Riverside Campus while Roxanne and Jezebel arrived at the San Jacinto Shelter on March 27th.

I made inquiries to those I knew in California to see if homes could be found for them and we

received inquiries from the American Sanctuary Association to see if we could help or knew



Milo

anyone who could. Weeks passed and each inquiry said they had no leads. My contacts in California also were unable to find homes for them. The facilities were in need of pen space and time was running short. We began communicating with Catherine Schmidt at the Western Riverside Campus and after Best Friends was able to take six more of our young pigs, we made the decision



Sioux

to take all six of the remaining pigs. None of them were spayed

or neutered and we were concerned the females were pregnant since they were all strays, so now we wanted to move quickly. Sure enough after receiving pictures of all of the pigs it was clear that Jezebel was pregnant.

Ben sent Catherine all the information on what was needed to cross state lines and Catherine moved quickly to arrange the necessary paper work and transportation to Blythe, CA. We



Jezebel

rented a van and met her in Blythe on May 6th. We quickly exchanged the carriers with the pigs in them and were headed back to Ironwood in no time.

Everyone arrived safely and settled in quickly. Catherine had spent time with them and had made progress socializing them. They are all sweet pigs and have learned to like their belly rubs. Napoleon is especially friendly.

He is the older male and is a little rough around the edges and looks to have been in his share of fights along the way. Roxanne and Jezebel are still not ready for belly rubs and are a little shy. All the



Napoleon

males have been neutered and the females have been luted except for Jezebel who, due to her advanced pregnancy, we let go to term. Best Friends has agreed to

take the babies once they are weaned, for which we are so grateful. The girls will be spayed soon.

All of these pigs will soon be moved to one of our large fields and settle into their new lives here at Ironwood. Again and again we have been able to save the lives of homeless pigs because of the generosity of all of you. One generous donor gave us the funds for transportation. It is no exaggeration to say their lives were saved because of you and especially Ryan and Catherine who worked so hard to see that these young animals found a safe refuge.

We can't save them all for sure



Roxanne With Pregnant Jezebel in the Background

but when we are able, we do. Looking at these sweet innocent faces I know we did the right thing even though it has caused us more expense and much more work for Ironwood.

---Mary

Donation Drop Offs in Phoenix and Tucson

Yes, we know it's over 100 degrees now! But we are still collecting and storing blankets to be used for next winter. Now is a great time to find comforters and blankets in the thrift stores. You can drop them off at the following volunteers' places or hang on to them to bring with you for November's annual Open House at the sanctuary.



There are two locations in both Phoenix and Tucson. Please note that no monetary donations can be accepted. All other material donations are very welcome and much appreciated. Don't forget blankets since we are always in short supply for the winter.

For the Phoenix area you can drop donations off at Carolyn's in East Mesa, AZ near Superstition Springs Mall. Give her a call at **480-981-8069** for directions. Also Susan's in North Phoenix near E Union Hills Dr and N Cave Creek Road. Give her a call at **602-339-6213** for directions.

For the Tucson area there are two drop off points. One is on the northwest side in the vicinity of Oracle Road and Hardy. Call **520-631-6015** for directions. The other is Sherry's in southeast Tucson near Swan Road and 22nd Street. Call her at **520-622-6304** for directions.

Thank you for all your support!

Double Your Donation!

You can double your donation if you work for or are retired from a matching gift company.

Most major companies will match their employee's or retiree's donations to a charity effectively doubling their donation. The process is usually pretty simple. You obtain a Matching Gift form from your employer, even if you are retired. Fill out the form and include it with your donation. We will fill out our part and send it back to your employer who will send Ironwood a donation equal to your donation. Your gift with your employer's match will go even further toward taking care of the almost 600 pigs at the Sanctuary. Thank you for making the effort to support us.

Do You Buy From Amazon.com?

If you do, you can use Smile.Amazon.com which is the same Amazon you know and love and you will receive the same deals, same prices, same services, etc. as Amazon.com. However, the big difference is that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Here is how you do it:

Log on to Smile.Amazon.com/ch/86-0999483 using the same log-in information that you use for your Amazon.com account. At the top of the page you will see Supporting: Mary C Schanz Foundation. The Foundation is our parent organization and it is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary.

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



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

Remember the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary In Your Will

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has been the recipient of bequests from a number of generous supporters. These donors felt that they needed their assets during their lifetimes, but decided to link themselves with the ongoing life of the Sanctuary by making bequests through their estate plans.

The Mary C Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your Will please use both names (although it is okay if you've already used only the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary name), the post office address from the back cover and this tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483. Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to the almost 600 Pot Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated.

I'm A NYC Girl

I'm a NYC girl. I was born in Manhattan and moved back right after I graduated from college, over 25 years ago. Therefore, it's no surprise that I had never met a pig- before I came to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, that is! How did I end up being the most frequent out of state volunteer Ironwood has ever had? Here is my story.

I have been a passionate animal lover ever since I was a little kid. I was never afraid of any species I came in contact with. Rather I felt an inexplicable and immediate bond, based on mutual respect and understanding. Since the age of 13 I've volunteered at the local animal shelter wherever I live, usually as a dog walker.



Raking West Field

Over the years I became an avid supporter of animals' rights and whenever possible make donations to various worthy animal care organizations. So I



Stefanie & Big Momma

must have ended up on several mailing lists of like-minded people. One day I received a newsletter from Ironwood. I had never heard of them, but immediately something struck me as different- less corporate, more grass roots and very hands on. As a non-profit organization, they welcomed any and all help and emphasized the need and opportunity to help socialize their rescued pigs- at that time there were over 500 of them. How fabulous, I thought! I actually called up the very next day and was both surprised and impressed that I was able to speak directly to Mary Schanz, one of the sanctuary's co-founders and its driving force. For almost 15 minutes she patiently answered all my questions and explained their mission. I was intrigued!

I had recently put to sleep my

beloved, rescued 15 year old pitbull Rufus and was looking to do something animal related and "meaningful." About a month later I found myself in the middle of an Arizona desert at Ironwood to do a volunteer vacation. That was 9 years and 8 visits ago!!

Since then I've become a huge fan of pigs and have learned some interesting things about them- I can also dispel a couple of false stereotypes. For example, I now know that pigs are much more intelligent than dogs and can be very affectionate. And they are not dirty at all! Unless ill or feeble, they poop far away from where they eat, live and sleep. Why do they roll in their muddy wallows? Both to cool down and to protect their skin from sunburn and insects. See- smart! How much does the average Pot-Bellied Pig weigh? About 150 lbs. However the expression to



Who Goes There?

"eat like a pig" is quite accurate- being omnivores, they do have

vast and hearty appetites! What is a pig's favorite guilty pleasure? Fig Newtons!



Giving a Belly Rub

So even though it's hard work- I usually help "water" the pigs, which means cleaning and refilling their drinking bowls, pools and wallows, or I help rake a seemingly never-ending accumulation of poop- I somehow find it relaxing and extremely rewarding. The whole experience is literally down to earth- a great contrast to my urban life.

Needless to say, these pigs- and now there are almost 600 of them- need to be taken care of 7 days a week, 365 days a year. So Mary, her husband and co-founder Ben Watkins and their small but incredibly dedicated staff, basically work non-stop to handle the many, many responsibilities involved. Just a few of these include: daily special meals to meet individual dietary restrictions and requirements, daily medications for about 300 of the pigs, taking pigs back and forth to the vet for spayings, neuterings and checking on

medical issues and even draping overheating pigs with cold towels in the summer, as temperatures often soar over 100*. Wow!

Regardless of whatever horrible, sad, neglectful or cruel experiences these pigs might have previously endured, the ones that end up at Ironwood are truly the lucky ones. From the moment they arrive here till whenever it is they pass on, their lives will be as safe, loving, care-free and happy as possible.

So I feel great and even privileged that I can pitch in just a little, by



I Don't Care If The Pool Isn't Full - I Wanna Take a Dip Right NOW!

donating my time and services 1 week out of the year. Try it sometime!!

---Stefanie

Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

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

Used Blankets are always welcome

Duct Tape

Swat Fly Ointment

Hydrocortisone Ointment

Vitamin B Complex

Vitamin E, 400 IU only

Acid Reducer, Ranitidine 150mg

Flaxseed Oil, Capsules Only

Triple Antibiotic Ointment

Benefiber (Not Flavored)

Giant Dog Crate (Plastic, NOT Metal)

8ft X 10ft Heavy Duty Tarp

Paper Towels

Fig Newtons (Not individually wrapped)

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.

Sponsor a S



Milo

My sister Sioux and I are a lot alike in that I want to be petted and loved too but sometimes have trouble staying focused. I need quiet time to be able to appreciate the attention.



Sioux

I love, love, love being petted and getting belly rubs, but I am sort of excitable and have trouble calming down enough for that to happen when there is a lot of activity around me.



Roxanne

I came here with J best friend. I can't now because of he looking for another hint!

We have several older pigs with no sponsors like Etta and Kenroy. New pigs such as the California group just keep on coming and they need your support too. Your \$30 monthly donation goes a long way to help meet the basic daily needs of the pig of your choice. As a "pig parent," you will receive



Carmela

a letter with the history of your pig along with photos. During the year you will get an update on your pig's life with new pictures. These piggies as well as others here at the sanctuary want and need your support. Please join our family of sponsors today! And thank you for caring! ---Donna



I have lived here for with people taking g have close piggy friend thing I don't have is Please help me round support.

Special Pig!



th Jezebel who is my
an't be with her right
her babies. So I'm
ther friend.....hint,



Cole

This place is way better than CA!
There are soccer balls to play
with, sticks to stomp on, mud
holes to roll in, pools to splash in
and lots of other pigs to
visit. So much fun to be had!



Jezebel

You only have to look
at my figure to know that
I'm the one that arrived
here pregnant! I love my
babies but am happy to know I will
not have to go through that again.



Kenroy

for over a decade
g good care of me. I
friends. But one
is a sponsor!
und out my circle of



Etta

Like Kenroy, I've been here for a
long time. I have had a couple of
sponsors in the past but neither for
very long. I'd love to have a long
term relationship with someone!



Napoleon

I am the oldest of the group that
came from California. My
tattered ear shows that I've had a
rough time before ending up
here. I hope those hard days are
behind me for good!

Inky's Terrible Neuter

Every now and then we get a call about an injured pig. We've had several calls about dog attacks or a stray pig that was hurt. Whether a surrender or someone looking for assistance we always try to help. Inky was our first with his kind of injury, though, and none has been more outrageous than his story.

In April we were contacted regarding a 6-month-old pig that was taken to a local pig farmer to be neutered. Farmers do not use anesthesia. The procedure didn't go well and because one testicle had not descended a lot of cutting and digging around was done. There was a lot of bleeding and



trauma. It did not take long for swelling and infection to spread throughout his abdomen. A neighbor who knew about this was trying to help care for Inky but it was clear that he needed medical attention that was beyond what the neighbor and owner could afford. We of course said we would take him and get him medical care.



With amazing timing Inky arrived at the sanctuary just as we were getting ready to take a couple of other pigs to our vet. As he arrived we could instantly smell his infection. He was calm but wide-eyed. His belly looked like there was a balloon inside, which was the infection and blood. We immediately got him ready to go and he was on his way to the vet.

The staff at the clinic was as shocked by his smell as we were. They were able to drain his belly and clean a hole on his rear that was full of maggots. Inky's blood count was really low due to all the blood that he had lost. He would need to be on a high protein diet and vitamins. A drain was inserted in his belly to help the infection continue to drain out. Inky was able to come back to Ironwood the same night. He would need to be on antibiotics and meds for pain relief and swelling. Other instructions were to keep Inky clean and to keep the flies away.

Keeping Inky clean wouldn't be a problem but keeping the flies

away from him would prove to be tough. Inky still smelled of infection and had open wounds, so of course the flies wanted to be on him. We kept SWAT, a fly repellent, on Inky and used a fly deterrent spray throughout the day. We tended to his open wound to ensure it would heal. We were instructed to pack the hole with medication daily. The biggest concern would be how Inky healed. Due to the way the farmer cut Inky through the prepuce there was a chance of scar tissue interfering with his ability to urinate. Aside from his current situation Inky would also still need to be neutered properly as there was still a testicle inside. A day had passed and Inky was



dripping a lot of blood from both the hole on his bottom and from his penis area. Worried, we rushed him back to the vet. They found that he was running a high temperature. They were able to flush out more blood but told us to expect more to come out. Inky would be on antibiotics for a good while and would need to be kept clean and dry. Over the days more and more blood clots would

come out and Inky's swelling would go down. We knew he was healing but still didn't know if we were out of the woods yet.

As enough time had passed Inky had healed enough from the botched neuter to be properly neutered. He made it through the procedure well. We have continued to keep him clean as he



has been healing. It was tough giving him his antibiotics and his appetite decreased at one point but he seemed to make it over the hump and has had a hearty appetite and maintained a good weight since. He was a very good patient putting up with us and kept a great attitude throughout.

Today Inky is acting well and is healed from his neuter. He's been able to move from his clean recovery area to our pens where he can socialize more with other pigs. He loves getting belly rubs and being around people. Our vet has recently seen him and there is still some infection that needs to be cleaned out. Inky will probably need to go back to the clinic for a good cleaning; hopefully this will be the last



time. He has definitely had a rough start but appears to be in the clear and on the road to a healthy life!

---Taryn

TRANSPORTING PIGS

Pigs come in all different sizes so we have a variety of carrier sizes for transporting them. However, we most frequently need the largest size particularly if a pig is going to the vet clinic for surgery and will need space to lie down after being under anesthesia. Some of our largest carriers are in disrepair and need replacing. We have found the safest and easiest carriers to use are the plastic type of kennel. If you would like to donate a carrier (or two!), here are two options for the size we currently need which is **48"L x 32"W x 35"H**.

We have this on our Amazon.Smile Wish List already. The Petmate 21647 Pet Porter Kennel can be purchased online with free shipping directly to us if you are a Prime Member on Amazon. Be sure to use the above dimensions for the proper size.

You may purchase the carrier online from Petsmart for us to pick up at the store (they will not deliver this

item). Please use this store address only: 3850 W. River Road, Tucson, AZ 85741. It is the Petmate Plastic Carrier of the above dimensions, item #36-5146745.



Individualized Feeding

As a group of visitors taking a tour of the sanctuary approach the fields on the west side of the property, one of the first things they see is the memory boards in front of Assisted Living Phase 4. "What are those?" is a frequent question. The memory boards can be found at the feeding stations of every field. It is a piece of plywood with holes cut in just the right size for our piggy feed bowls. The pigs' names are on their bowls as well as above the slots for their bowls. This is one of the check systems for determining if all the pigs were let out of their feed pens after breakfast.



with their meal. These individual pens are built specifically for feeding the pigs and are not used for any other purpose. They are small since the pig will only be inside for a short time each morning. Because of the vast amount of detail that goes into feeding each herd in every one of our 26 different fields, it can be

competition of others. Then you have the speed demons that inhale their share of the grain then eat everyone else's. A handful of the pigs eat in a pen simply because they sort of lose their mind at feeding time and get so excited that they either knock down our staff as they try to get other pigs into their pens or get too aggressive with the rest of the herd. It's helpful to get that type of pig put safely away in a pen while we deal with the others.



easy to get distracted by things out of the ordinary happening. You can be going through your

Each of the pens has shade cloth over and around it to protect the pigs from the hot summer sun while they eat. Everyone has a "place mat" made from carpet squares as well as a bowl of water. Some of the boys that are dealing with chronic urinary tract issues also have juice bowls since they need to drink more than average and will be served diluted juice



While the majority of our pigs eat from troughs and/or bowls spread throughout the fields, there are quite a few pigs that eat in individual pens for a variety of reasons. Some have special medications or supplements mixed in their food. Others require a soft mash due to a loss of teeth. We often get obese pigs released to us and have them on diets. Some of the older pigs need extra rations to keep their weight up. A few pigs are slow eaters and need more time without the



normal routine of feeding a field and letting pigs out of their pens when you get a call over the two-way radio of someone needing help getting cactus out of a pig or a new staff member isn't sure who a particular pig is and needs assistance identifying them or a fight breaks out between pigs for whatever reason and you have to



run over and break them up. There's always something going on around here! To prevent any pig from being left behind in its feed pen, we have a check system in place to ensure their safety.

The person responsible for letting the pigs out of the feed pens has to pick up the pigs' bowls as they let them out. The bowls are rinsed then brought back up to the feed station. That person then places the bowls into the proper slot on the memory boards, matching the names on the bowls to the names on the boards. If a bowl is missing then it's possible that the pig was accidentally left in its pen. Then you have to backtrack to the pen and check on the pig.



Sometimes it may be that the bowl was set down to rinse then forgotten due to some interruption in the routine but we always must have every bowl back in place on

the memory board before leaving that field to move on to the next one.

Our sanctuary is divided into the original section of fields on the east side and the 6 acre addition that was later built on the west side. We feed the west side first each morning. The last person to finish up on that side does what we refer to as the "walk around". They have a clipboard that is kept up to date with every single individual feed pen listed by field with each pig's name. That person must walk through all the fields and look inside each pen to double check that the pigs are out. Each pen is then marked on the list as being empty. The same thing happens on the east side of



the property once all those fields have been fed. The last person does the walk around for the east side and must visually check every feed pen in every field. This is an extra precautionary measure to make sure that no pig is ever left inside a pen. During the summertime when the temperatures reach 110 degrees and above, it would be disastrous to be left in. We are super careful about never letting that happen. We want our pigs to always be safe, happy and well cared for.

---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.



Front and Back Covers



Govinda came to Ironwood on July 2nd, 2010 with his brother Doppers. With them came **Pegasus** and Ganesha, who also are brother and sister, and **Lily**. They arrived with five others that day. **Govinda** and all of his friends were part of a large rescue

where we took in a total of 75 pigs over a few years. The rescue was doing poorly and in need of help. Many of the pigs have been featured in our



Lily and Pegasus

newsletters. These five occupied a corner of a field which had been built for this rescue. All five were good friends and stayed together and all were seniors when they arrived. They were a happy contented group but

still being up in years they all soon were eating in individual feeding pens and in need of more care and a more sedate life.

Pegasus moved in behind my house first and soon to follow was Ganesha. We moved Govinda and Doppers into a pen since they were both due for cryo-



Ganesha and Govinda

surgery for their many skin cancers. Once they healed we decided it was time for them to live with some others more in their age group with similar



Close Friends Pegasus & Lily

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

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needs. However, they were still pretty mobile so they were given a larger area with pigs that were still better able to get around. Finally **Lily** was moving slower and slower so we brought her in to join her friends **Pegasus** and Ganesha.



Ganesha, Govinda and Doppers

Govinda and Doppers have adapted well to their new environment and still share a shelter and often are seen in one of the large shelters with Carson. **Pegasus**, Ganesha, and **Lily** did not miss a step and all three of them share a large shelter in a pen behind my house where they can be carefully watched in their old age.



Govinda

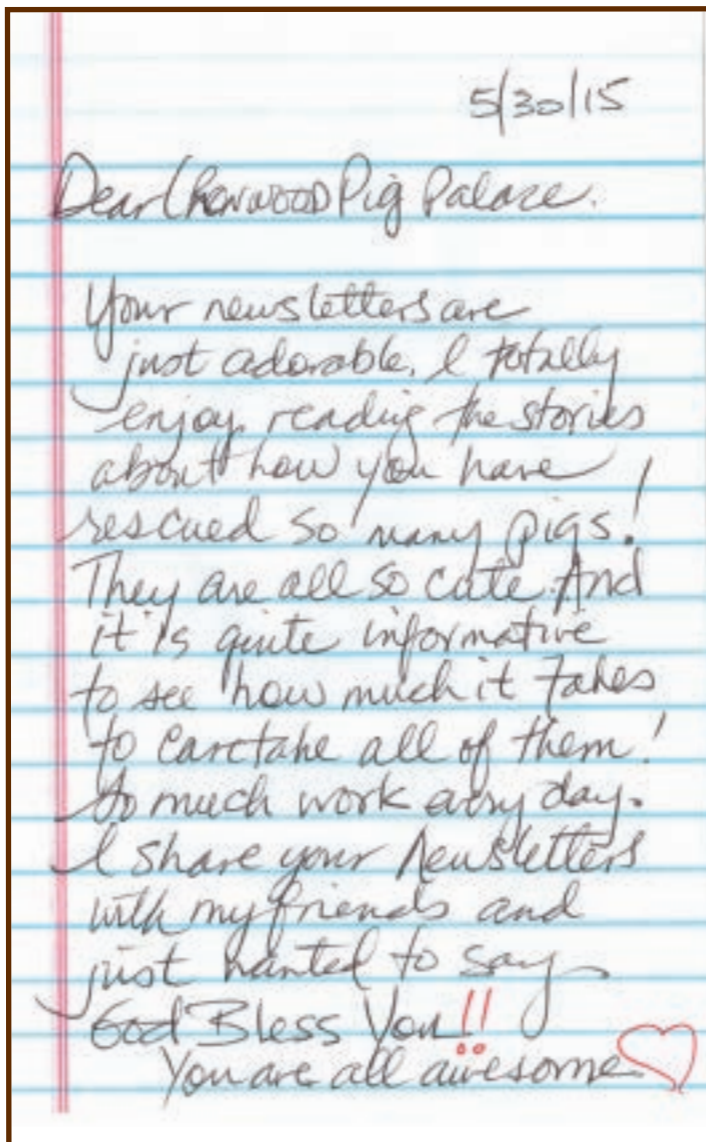
What a sweet group of pigs that are so deserving of all the special care we are able to give them.

---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.



Dear Ironwood -
The 14th Anniversary edition of the newsletter was outstanding! Loved reading about the fields, the history of Ironwood, and Lois' story.
You are all doing such amazing work at Ironwood! Here's a small donation to celebrat 14 years!

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Close Friends Pegasus & Lily