

# IRONWOOD

ISSUE  
NO 55

NOVEMBER  
2013



Linus

## PIG SANCTUARY

# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490  
Tucson, AZ 85740

November 2013

Dear Supporter,

We have come full circle once again with the holiday season approaching us, a time of good will and a message of Peace on Earth. As I write this letter it is the International Day of Peace. Those celebrating this day say there is so much hope in the world. And we are part of it! Those celebrating today want to allow the possibility for a new way of relating together as ONE PEOPLE. I have hope also on this day. My hope is that we will not only come together as One People but as One with all life. This is not an easy concept since it is hard to accept even different cultures among humans. To expand that to accept the “cultures” of other sentient beings is even more difficult. But they do have cultures of their own. When one lives with nearly 600 pigs day and night it becomes obvious they have their own vocal language, body language, behaviors, social groups, and friends and enemies who make up their “culture” and it is complex as is ours. It becomes impossible to not think of all other sentient beings as part of the Whole and to harm one of them is like harming one of our own. We are far from the same but we share nearly all the same emotions. One only has to watch a mother pig fiercely defending her babies, or a pig gently nuzzling and lying next to a companion who has departed, or babies of all kinds playing with one another to know we are all one and the hope for Peace should be extended to all beings.

Changing the minds of people to visualize peace and respect for all beings is difficult, but I do know that the process has begun with you who help our pigs. Your many wonderful notes, letters, and donations let us know how you feel about animals, pigs in particular. There are millions of others who are kindred spirits but we must continue to spread the word to all we know. As people learn more about the social structures, emotions, intelligence and family bonds of animals, maybe they will begin to think that we all share the same desire; to live in peace and with respect.

The pigs at Ironwood have been able to form the social groups of their choice and the freedom to develop their unique culture and express their feelings at the sanctuary. When I saw Huey grazing on the remaining hay this afternoon in our main field with his life long friend and brother Louie, I realized what a special place Ironwood has become to the pigs in our care. And I know that when the day is done and these two pigs are snuggled together in their shelter they will be content and at peace. Thank you for helping to make this happen and Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz  
President and CoFounder



**Buster & Mary**



The Piggies were napping all snug in their fields while visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.

# New Family Members

**O**ver the past nine months, January through September, we have welcomed 61 new pigs to our large family at Ironwood. Some of their stories have been told, many have not.

I have chosen a few of their stories since they are representative of frequent recurrent themes about why so many pigs are released to us. Some of these reasons are not the commonly thought of reasons to release a pig such as too big, moving, or divorce. I hope reading the stories of these pigs may give you a chance to understand how some of our accepted practices in this country affect the animals who are the not so willing participants of these practices.



**Macy**

Macy was released to us on August 4th. Her mom sent Macy's story with her to Ironwood. "When she was very young Macy was used in a petting zoo. After that she was kept in a pen with a lot of large goats. Macy had to fight for everything. I did some work for the people that owned Macy. When I spotted her she had nasty sunburns

with lots of sores and other problems." Ann was able to rescue her. She had Macy for almost five years but due to health issues and Macy becoming aggressive she had to give her up. She loved her a lot and she was sad having to give Macy away.

People innocently go to visit petting zoos not knowing what goes on behind the scenes. They want their kids to see baby animals and have a chance to pet them. We have gotten many pigs in from petting zoos who no longer were serving a purpose for them since they do grow up and are no longer cute. Also their care behind the petting pens is often very poor. We got one 10-week-old baby in from a New River petting zoo who, it was reported, had nothing to eat but soggy bread. She was adopted and soon had to be euthanized because all her joints were so ill formed. I would like to discourage people from supporting petting zoos.

Being pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or already having a baby may be good reason to pass on adopting a pig. Maybe a better time to adopt a pig would be when the children are older. Below are three examples of pigs that lost their family as people began new families.

Pepper is a beautiful spotted pig who arrived on August 13th. Elizabeth was pregnant and going to deliver in 4 weeks and had "no way to take care of him. Pepper is



**Pepper**

neutered, house trained, car friendly, he can be an inside/outside pig." She cares about Pepper and inquires often but still Pepper has lost his home.

"We have a 6 month old baby so having a pig isn't reasonable. He doesn't get any attention and sits in a tiny pen all the time." This was a quote from Atticus' family before we picked him up.



**Barnabus**

"A year ago we wrote and asked if you could take our pig dear Barnabus into your sanctuary. At that time we were just about to experience the birth of our first child and now we're pregnant with our second."

Organizations such as preschools or other schools sometimes breed

animals, pigs as well, so the children can enjoy the babies or maybe learn about the animals that they are breeding. We have gotten pigs from Austin Centers for Exceptional Students in Phoenix and more recently from the Little Ranch Schoolhouse preschool here



Jager

in Tucson. We were told that the preschool breeds the animals and sells them to buy the food necessary to feed them. Little Jager here is one such pig. A couple purchased him at a very young age, not neutered, and found after a very few months they had to move to a smaller place and could not keep him. We feel breeding animals in a school is the wrong message to give children. A much better solution would be for these schools to rescue animals from local shelters and teach the children about the care and rescue of animals and the need to spay and neuter.



Haiden

One of the most common reasons we acquire pigs is aggression. Little Haiden is 4 years old and he had been here on several occasions to board with us. Not long ago we got an e-mail from his mom and she said he was getting so bad she was afraid to go in the pen with him. He liked her husband but he was out of town a lot and Haiden was becoming impossible. There are a number of ways to deal with aggression which is very common in pigs once they reach the age of 2 to 3 or sometimes earlier. The best way I know is to have a companion pig, but often people do not want a second pig and they reach the end of their rope and call us to take their pig. This is one reason we only adopt in pairs.



Audrey

Abandonment and strays are far more common than one would think. People who visit here are always amazed when I point out all the stray pigs we get in. I featured Audrey in our last newsletter who was found outside a family's fence trying to get into their yard. She was clearly abandoned or dumped and near death when the family called us. She is still quite thin but happily eating three meals a day and wandering around the fenced perimeter of the property. Just today we took in our 61st pig of the

year and he is a little stray boar from Wittmann that some kind people brought to us. They said he was wandering the neighborhood for nearly two months and was attacked by three dogs last weekend. Somehow he miraculously escaped serious injury and has now found his way to Ironwood.



BB

And lastly on this list of stories of the arrivals from this year is BB's story. She was rescued by a man who negotiated her release from a member of a religious cult. She was acquired for a religious sacrifice. He was told the pig must be a baby and be in the home for two years before it was sacrificed. It acted as a protector of the family. If the evil spirit of death came to the house the pig would be taken before any family member would. After two years the pig has served its purpose and would be sacrificed. I think I have now heard it all in this business of rescue.

As I look into the faces of these 61 newcomers I commit to them as best I can to make their lives full, healthy, and secure for the years ahead no matter what their reason is for becoming part of our family.

---Mary

## GREAT GIFT IDEA!

Do you know someone who loves pigs? How about “giving” them a pig as a gift this holiday season! You can choose one of the pigs featured on the Sponsor Page in this newsletter and set up a sponsorship in that person’s name. They will receive a letter with the pig’s history, photos of the pig, a certificate on holiday paper presenting the gift and giver then a Sanctuary newsletter if they do not already receive one. Support the Sanctuary and give a gift at the same time!



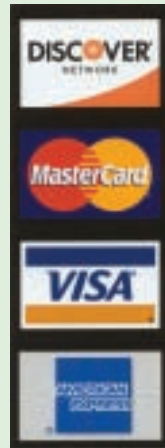
## Do you think of yourself as special? And indispensable? And irreplaceable? We do!

The plain truth is, **your Support makes everything we do possible.** Every time we rescue a pig... Every time we take a sick pig to the vet... Every time we do our medical rounds... Every time we feed our pigs... Every time we get a load of water... **It’s all thanks to you and your support.** Yes, you mean that much. Your continued support is that critical. Thank you so much for caring.

### Sustainer

You can become a Sanctuary Sustainer by making a monthly donation of \$5, \$10, \$25, \$100 or any amount you choose which can be charged to your credit card, debit card or e-check each month.

Your donation will be there each month to care for the Piggies. You can use the enclosed envelope or go to our web site to sign up.



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](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org). Or if you have a PayPal account you can make a donation using our e-mail address [ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com](mailto:ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com).

## Fry’s Food Stores Community Rewards

Fry’s Food Store where you shop will make a donation to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary as a function of your purchases. Registering is easy. Just go to [www.FrysCommunityRewards.com](http://www.FrysCommunityRewards.com) and register your Fry’s V.I.P. Card. Once you login you will be taken to the welcome page. Click on the blue square “enroll now” to enroll in the Community Rewards Program. Enter our organization number 80186. You will see “Mary Schanz Foundation dba Ironwood Pig Sanctuary.” Thank you for your support!

# OPEN HOUSE!

Saturday November 9th From 11:00AM to 3:00PM



This year's Open House promises to be another fun filled day! It's going to be on Saturday, November 9th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. You are all welcome to attend and don't hesitate to bring your friends and family along! We will have snacks and drinks available. There is no admission fee. You can have a tour of the Sanctuary, visit with pigs, purchase shirts, hats and knickknacks then relax at the Visitor Center. It is always a great time, so come on out and enjoy the day with us and the pigs. We love sharing our pigs and the sanctuary with you!

You should receive an invitation with a map in the mail. If you don't, please call Ben at 520-631-6015 or email us at [ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com](mailto:ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com) for directions.

The following is a list of things we need at the sanctuary. If you bring peanut butter please bring CREAMY ONLY... it spreads so much quicker and easier when making the "medicine sandwiches" for the pigs. Everyone can bring blankets (we never have enough), then if you would like to help out more, please choose from this list. (Those marked with "\*" are items we need and use the most.)

- \*\*BLANKETS
- \*Peanut Butter, CREAMY
- \*Cranberry/Grape Juice (cran/grape flavor only please)
- \*Cranberry Capsules

Fig Newton Cookies (or equivalent brand)  
 Animal Crackers  
 Mineral Oil  
 Flaxseed Capsules  
 Ensure (VANILLA ONLY)  
 Canned Pumpkin  
 Triple Antibiotic Ointment  
 Hydrocortisone Ointment

The above items are things we are in need of now as well as blankets, blankets, blankets! (I know I keep repeating blankets, but...) We love you all, appreciate your support and hope to see you at Ironwood's Open House. Mark November 9th on your calendar!

## Ironwood Calendar

Are you finished getting ready for the new year? We sure are! We have our Ironwood 2014 Calendar ready for you. Ironwood's 12 month Calendar is full of wonderful pictures of our pigs. Each month will bring a smile to your face and remind you of all the sweet faces you are helping bring smiles to. Calendars are \$17 which includes shipping.



If you'd like to purchase one you can either pick one up at our Open House on November 9th or order one through us. You can use our paypal donate button on our website at [www.ironwoodpigs.org](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org) and indicate that you are purchasing a calendar. You can also send a check or give us your credit card number. You may also contact us through email at [ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com](mailto:ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com).

# Sponsor a S



Antaris

Antaris is a name for a girl.  
You might want to give it a whirl.  
It's different and fun  
And is the only one  
For a pig as pretty as a pearl.



Oscar

Oscar is a fun sort of name.  
With it you can make a game.  
With what does it rhyme?  
Are you taking your time?  
Will your answer be something that's lame?



Miss Piggy

I am a gal called  
And no, I do not  
My hair is  
On my bod  
And how is real



Snort

I once met a girl named Snort  
Who looked like a really good sort.  
She danced on the roof  
While tapping her hoof  
To gain a sponsor for her support.



Mayer

I am a boy named Mayer.  
About it you may wish to enquire.  
Are you really a wiener  
Or is that your demeanor?  
Maybe a new name I should acquire!



Buster

I am a piggy  
And I can cau  
By clicki  
And ston  
To see every



# Special Pig!



ny

called Miss Piggy  
do not wear a wiggy.  
is my own,  
body it's grown.  
really no biggie.



Sammy

There once was a piggy named Sammy  
Who grinned and acted all hammy.  
When asked where he lived  
The answer he'd give  
Was "You mean that I'm not in Miami?"



Pumba

Pumba's a pig that is white.  
He once was a bundle of fright  
When he lived with some dogs  
Who barked gobs and gobs  
He trembled with all of his might.



gy named Buster  
cause you to fluster  
cking my teeth  
stomping my feet  
everyone run in a cluster.

## PLEASE JOIN OUR SPONSOR FAMILY

*Ironwood has more than one pig.*

*Its need for more sponsors is big.*

*Perhaps you can help*

*If so, give a yelp*

*And let me know which one you dig.*

Help these pigs have the best holiday ever by becoming their "parent" when you decide to sponsor one or more. A monthly donation of \$30 will provide your pig's care plus their share of sanctuary expenses. In exchange you will receive photos and a letter about your pig (or maybe another limerick!) as well as new pictures and an update on your pig during the upcoming year. Remember that sponsoring a pig for someone special for a few months or a year makes a great holiday gift!

---Donna



# Boudreaux's Letter to Santa

Dear Santa,

I hear about you every year when it gets cold outside. My people tell me that you go around at night on December 24th with your reindeer helping spread cheer. I've been told that you bring nice presents to all of the good pigs and put the naughty pigs to work. I just wanted to let you know that I've been a good pig this year.



always so fun.

I think I am supposed to tell you what I would like most for Christmas. Well, I do love fruit and won't say no to hay. But what I think I want most is a really warm blanket. One I can snuggle in and share with my roommates. Actually, if you have any extras maybe you can bring some for them too. Sometimes they don't share and it makes things awkward.

When new pigs came to my field I didn't put up a fight. I stayed out of the way and let them play. I even shared my wallow during the day! I was always patient when waiting for my medication. I never got pushy or bit anyone. I even posed for a picture, that's

Now, some of my acquaintances may tell you that I have stolen their breakfast from time to time. I assure you, they had had enough and I was just making sure that they didn't eat too much. I just want to make sure my field mates stay at a good weight.

I hope this letter gets to you in time so you can put me on your good pig list. I'll leave some cookies outside for you, something you can't resist.  
Sincerely,

---Boudreaux

## Update on Morley

In our July 2013 newsletter Mary wrote an article about the adoption of Morley into a family that had a pig named Alice who was becoming increasingly aggressive towards people. We have found that when there are two pigs in the family they are much less aggressive with people. The introduction of Morley calmed Alice and improved the situation. Here is a recent e-mail from the adoptive family.

Hi Mary,

It has been awhile, so I thought I'd write you a quick email on how Morley is doing. He's quite a bit bigger than Alice, she doesn't try to boss him at all now. And Alice has gotten so much better around other people. Morley is always very kind to her, unless she tries to give him attitude. They are such a good pair!

Morley was so timid around strangers, always afraid. Lately, he is really starting to bloom. Brave

enough to meet new people and allow them to even scratch his head.

He's such a good boy and lets me clean his ears while getting a belly rub. I've been handling his feet alot, but I don't think he is ready to let me trim yet. His feet aren't terrible, he moves around the whole acre quite a lot. I'm hoping he will eventually let me trim his feet with the dremel like I do with Alice.

I can't thank you enough for letting me adopt him. He is such a perfect fit in our family.



Shona

# Front and Back Cover



**L**inus was born along with eight other brothers and sisters at the Yuma Humane Society on January 19, 2009. Gwendolyn and Scott, their mom and dad, were found running loose in the desert and the Humane Society took them in. Gwen gave

birth not long after reaching the Humane Society. About six weeks after they were born the Humane Society asked us to take the remaining family which now numbered Mom, Dad and five babies so on March 1, 2009 they all came to Ironwood to live. After the babies were weaned Gwen was adopted but not long after her adoption she came back home when the family ended in divorce.

One baby was adopted but Linus, Stephano, Aida and Kelly remained with us. Their first few months they remained in a large pen near us and they were little hellions when we let them out to run around the property. It was great fun watching them grow up.

Once they were old enough all four siblings were released to the same field where Mom and Dad were living. Linus and his siblings soon became friends with the larger herd of pigs from the Peoria rescue and these past four years they all live together in their large field. Linus' story is sort of the story of him and his siblings since they have always been and will remain together here at Ironwood.

**F**itzroy arrived at Ironwood on September 21, 2012. He was part of a larger rescue we were in the process of doing over a 2 1/2 year period from 2010 to 2013. We took 55 pigs in all from another rescue facility. We had taken 19 back in 2002. We finally completed taking in all the pigs in February of this year. His name was Fat Boy but we



did not like his name and he wasn't even fat so we renamed him Fitzroy. We never got any history or information on any of their pigs so I know very little about him. I do know he is a very cute gentle little guy. He is in a field we built to accommodate many of these pigs along with a few others that have joined them. He has had a difficult time competing for food with all his buddies so we built him a small feeding pen so he can eat his meal in peace. He likes that. He liked having his picture taken and being picked to be featured in the holiday newsletter.

## Donation Drop Off

For those in the Phoenix area that have donations of blankets, peanut butter, or other wish list items can now drop them 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. 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.

# SPOTS

**T**he pot bellied pigs that were originally brought over from Vietnam were black. Over the years they have been mixed with other breeds to produce different colors. While the majority of pot bellies are still black there are now plenty with a combination of black and white. A large number are white pigs that usually have faint black markings particularly on their faces. A small percentage of piggies are grey. Then you have the unusual spotted pigs.



Jeannie

unusual. It was strange for us to get four from different sources within a few months' time.

with the spotted piggies, there is no question. They are definitely easy to recognize and remember.

---Donna



Glitzy



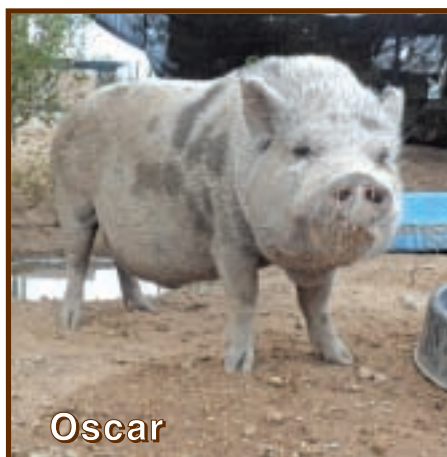
Dexter

We have had Jeannie and Dexter as our only spotted pigs for a long time. Neither of them are pot bellied pigs and are much larger with longer hair and big ears. This past spring began a trend of spotted pot bellied pigs coming our way. First was Oscar who arrived with his friend Mayer. Then along came Glitzy, a young girl who ended up going to Best Friends Animal Society in Utah and getting adopted. Not far behind her were Pepper and BB who arrived separately but within the same week. Spotted pigs aren't really rare, but they are

Each pig is unique. The four latest spotted additions to our herd are all basically a brownish gray with black or dark brown spots. Even though the coloring is similar, their spots and other markings give each an individualized appearance. As I rattle off names and stories about the pigs to people who come to visit the sanctuary, I often get asked, "How do you tell them apart?" In the fields where there are 40 or more black pigs, the answer is not so easy. However,



Pepper



Oscar



BB

# Our Wish List

## GIFT CARDS

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

## BIG STUFF

Van, Cargo - Late Model  
Full Size, rear A/C  
Truck - Late Model 3/4 Ton  
Long Bed Pickup

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Postage Stamps (Forever, 46, 33, 20 cents) Other denominations can also be used

Used Blankets always welcome

\*Cranberry Capsules Item #4363

\*Vitamin B Complex Item #773

\*Vitamin E Capsules (400 IU) #1773

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

Fig Newton Cookies

Rugby Zinc Oxide, available on Amazon.com

Peanut Butter (Creamy Only) Check Amazon.com and Walmart for good prices with free shipping.

Triple Antibiotic Ointment

\*\*Be sure to check out our Wish List on Amazon.com for more items. See below for details.

## AMAZON IS EASY!

Shopping on Amazon.com is a super easy way to give to the sanctuary, especially if you want to give something extra for the holidays. 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!

Here's how it works: 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. You may choose items from our list and click on "Add to Cart" for each. When you have completed your selections, go to "Cart" and check out. The items you choose will be shipped directly to us. How easy is that!

## Peanut Butter at Walmart.com

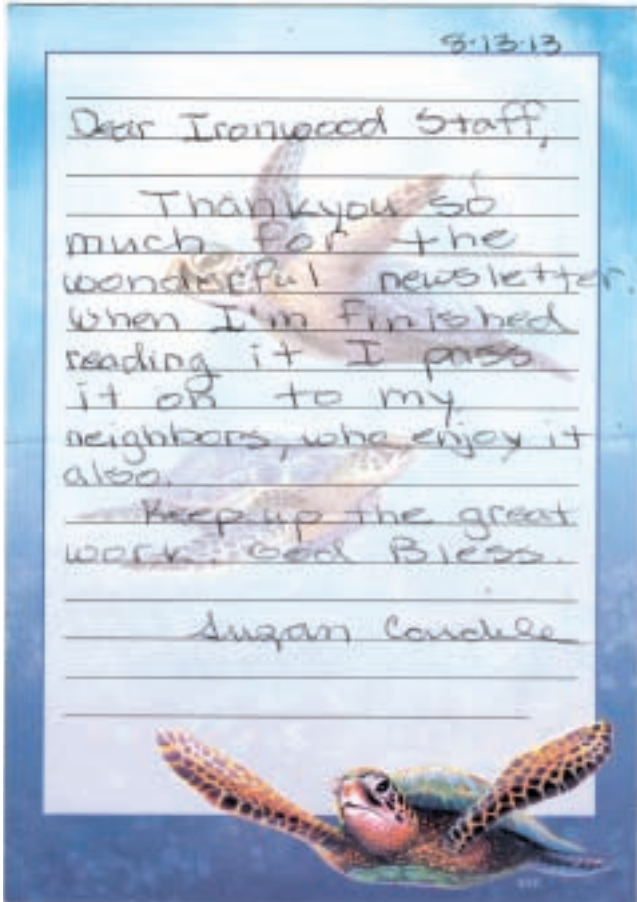
Walmart offers free shipping when you purchase 4 twin packs of Jif Creamy Peanut Butter at \$11.62 for each 5lb twin pack. Please use the following address for shipping only. We do not receive regular mail at this address. 34656 E Crystal Vision Dr, Marana, AZ 85658.

## 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](mailto:hoofandtusk@yahoo.com) to set up an appointment.



# Our Supporters Write



*These girls are gone now, but didn't we have fun? My girl on the right was "Sadie." She was my very first...and she taught me to love.*

*Left to right: Charlotte, Phoebe + Sadie*

*---Urban Chavez, Sr.*



Glenda Boitnott's Wilbur



## 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.

<p>I LIKE HOW YOU ARE REALLY ON THE GROUND TAKING CARE OF THE PIGS, RATHER THAN RIDING AROUND IN NEW CARS RAISING FUNDS.</p> <p>I ALSO APPRECIATE NOT BEING THREATEND BY PROFESSIONAL FOND RAISERS FOR THE LOSS OF SOME "MEMBERSHIP" IF I DONT PAY UP.</p> <p>YOU ARE REALLY THE GOOD GUYS.</p> <p>THANK YOU, CAROLYN PATTERSON</p>	
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Mario & a Quail Family



**IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY**  
**POST OFFICE BOX 35490**  
**TUCSON, AZ 85740-5490**  
520-631-6015  
ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com  
www.ironwoodpigs.org  
www.facebook.com/IronwoodPigSanctuary

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**Fitzroy**