

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary Post Office Box 35490 Tucson, AZ 85740

July 2013

Dear Supporter,

Don't worry about not seeing Mary's signature below. She is alive and well, working hard as always at the Sanctuary. To give her a break she asked me to write this letter.

By the time you receive this newsletter we will be in the middle of our hottest period. June will be over, but July is not any better. Average high temperatures are around 106 degrees with daily ranges from 100 to 115. I suppose because of global warming we seem to always be on the high side of our normal range. This week it has been around 106 to 110 degrees.

As Mary often says, we did NOT bring these pigs to Arizona. We are only here because there are so many that need rescuing. We take in around 65 pigs a year and with adoptions and attrition our population stays steady at around 600.

It is hard work keeping our pigs cool during this hot weather. We start in the morning with three staff members watering all the fields and pens for about 5-6 hours each. At around 7am the air conditioner is turned on in the Assisted Living barn and the evaporative cooler turns on automatically in the B Pens. We turn on misters in the A pens, C pens and what we call the Cat Shelter that houses additional elderly pigs. The rest of the pigs have wallows, wading pools, water bowls and automatic waterers as well as plenty of shade. From around 10am to 6pm one of our staff starts by pouring diluted juice into some of the pigs' water bowls in order to encourage them to drink since these selected pigs do not normally drink enough to stay hydrated. This same person also takes buckets of ice water with them as they make the rounds to use for soaking towels that are put across the older pigs that have trouble dealing with the hot weather. During the afternoon medical rounds we make sure that there is water in all areas. And finally during the early evening Donna, Taryn or Mary make a final check of these same pigs to make sure that they are comfortable for the night. I often claim that these are the most pampered pigs anywhere.

Don't get me started about the 110 special meals, 150 peanut butter sandwiches with each pig's medication, afternoon meds, and the 224 feeding pens needed to deliver all these goodies to the older pigs.

Sincerely,

Ben Watkins

Executive Director & Co-Founder

Esmerelda

And finally, thank you for all of your continued support. We could not take care of these 600 pigs without you!

You Are My Sunshine

ou are my sunshine, my only sunshine. You make me happy when skies are gray. So the song goes.... Well, we only have one Sunshine here and she is an adorable 14 ½ yearold piggy. I've known Sunshine for many years from when she lived at her previous home which had a wonderful yard with lots of shade trees....a perfect place for a piggy. I would go to her home every couple of years to trim her hooves. It was always way too long in between trimmings. Her owners would wait until Sunshine had trouble walking before having me come over. Then in September of 2011 I got a call from them and was shocked by their request.

Rather than being asked to trim Sunshine's hooves. I was asked if I would take her out into the desert. and shoot her! Apparently their son who is in the medical profession told them Sunshine had a uterine tumor and would never survive surgery and should be killed. Not wanting to spend the money to have a vet to do it humanely, they were going to shoot her but by law could not fire a gun within the city limits. Having no way to transport her, I was asked to do it. Needless to say, I was speechless for a moment then had to count to ten to keep from blurting out my first impulsive remarks which were none too kind. I then calmly suggested that Ironwood would be happy to pick Sunshine up and



take her to the sanctuary to evaluate her health and make a decision on whether euthanizing her was necessary or not. You can imagine how quickly we organized that pick up! We sure didn't want them finding someone else to "do the deed" before we got there!

Sunshine did indeed have a uterine tumor as well as several rectal tumors. First we had our vet spay her and remove the tumor. We did not deal with the rectal tumors at that time, feeling that doing both at once would be too risky for a pig of her age. Sunshine made a fabulous recovery and was later able to go back to the clinic and have the rectal tumors removed. Again, she had a good strong recovery. During the months when these events took place Sunshine lived in one of our holding pens with periodic access to an exercise yard.

After a complete recovery from both surgeries Sunshine was ready to move out into a field. We chose the Assisted Living Phase Two field which is home to twelve elderly pigs all of whom are in decent physical condition. Like the majority of our senior citizens, these pigs all have arthritis issues and take medication as well as ioint supplements. support Sunshine fit in great with this particular group of pigs. chose a shelter for herself which she has decided not to share with anyone. After years of living alone, she prefers her privacy. However, Sunshine does mingle with the other pigs in the mornings while they gather to wait for



Sunshine Before Surgery

breakfast to be served. She is always in a good mood, eager to be fed and is very content with her life here at Ironwood. Every time I see Sunshine it always puts a big smile on my face to see how happy and healthy she is! I am so grateful we were given the opportunity to change the direction her life was headed.

---Donna

Dr. Penny & Mrs. Naughty

igs have such strong and unique personalities. Some are known for being super friendly and will lay down for a belly rub if you merely look at them. Others might be known for being a little pushy if treats or food are around. Several are known for being shy and not wanting attention at all. Certain pigs even have a reputation for being naughty and it's known that they will bite you. Penny is one of our pigs that keeps a second personality on the side for certain moments, often being compared to Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Most people may only witness her as Dr. Penny while others have seen her as Mrs. Naughty.



Penny is generally known for being friendly and enjoying belly rubs. She may be pushy at times but generally a happy, sociable girl. If you ask most people they will say that Penny is a good girl. She often comes out if she hears someone's voice in hopes that they will pet her. It's safe to say this is her good side and normal personality. However, those of us



that give out medications in Penny's field in the evenings have witnessed Penny's naughty side.

In the evenings Penny is waiting at the fence expecting treats. This is when she lets her naughty impulses take over. Penny knows that some of the other pigs get medication and she wants to make sure she doesn't get missed. Penny will then follow the evening staff person around to each pig. She's fast on her feet so the staff person has to be as well. Penny will nudge and she might even jab you with her teeth if you're too slow and don't know that she is behind you. We often use animal cookies to keep her at bay while we give others their medications.

We appreciate that Penny saves her naughty side for later and shows her good side the rest of the time. There are a couple others that save their second personality for special occasions but few compare to Penny.

---Taryn

facebook

Have you seen our facebook page??

www.facebook.com/ ironwoodpigsanctuary



We currently have over 3,000 'likes' and want more! We update with photos of what's going on at the sanctuary, new intakes and surgery pigs. Keep in the loop and feel free to comment and ask us any questions. Sometimes we also post any items that we are in need of. We have had a great response from people with this. Thank you to all who help us keep going!

---Taryn

Look At Me Now!

am such a lucky girl! In less than nine months I have gone from being a baby with a dog shredded face to a big girl living out in a field with 22 other pigs. You can look back at my story in the January 2013 newsletter with an update in the March issue as well as a video on our website.

On May 4th I moved out into the Northeast Field and have been getting to know the other piggies living there. It is so exciting to be strong and healthy enough to join a herd! Sometimes I sleep in a pigloo (with my ducky!) and other times I sleep out under the creosote bushes. A few times I was hanging out with Lily and Tina over by their houses. The other pigs that live in this field have been very nice to me. I love it here!

Love ya, Amber

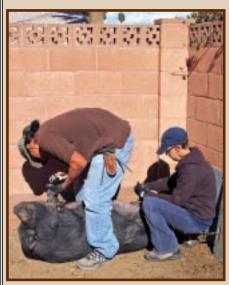




Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson, Phoenix and surrounding areas can contact Donna Thomason for pot-bellied pig tusk and hoof trimming. Donna is 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.





Double or Triple Your Donation

You can easily make your donation to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary go even further if you work for a matching gift company. Many employers will double and sometimes triple their employees' or retirees' charitable contributions. Simply request a matching gift form from the personnel department of your employer, fill it out and mail it to us with your donation or use it for one of your past donations. Check out our list of major companies that offer matching gifts at the bottom of our web site's **Support** page. Your gift, with your employer's match will go even further toward taking care of the 600 pot-bellied pigs at the Sanctuary.

Remember the Sanctuary in your Will

We have been the recipient of bequests from many supporters. And many current supporters have included the sanctuary in their wills. Attorneys like to include the tax ID number in your will for the non-profit organization you are donating to. If yours does, then you must include our parent organization, The Mary C. Schanz Foundation, in your will. Our EIN number is 86-0999483. We are doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. There are no administrative or other expenses associated with The Mary C. Schanz Foundation. Use the PO Box address on page 16 of this newsletter.

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. Or if you have a PayPal account you can make a donation using our e-mail address ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com.

IRA Charitable Rollover Gift

Donors 70 ½ or older can roll over donations directly from a Traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charity, including Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, without paying income taxes on the funds transferred. For those donors who do not itemize deductions, a gift from an IRA is excluded from reportable income, thus simplifying tax returns. It also counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). It's convenient: Just contact your IRA administrator to make a rollover. Current legislation allows for this opportunity only through December 31, 2013.



OPEN HOUSE

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 9, 2013! We will be having our annual Open House for a day full of fun. There will be tours of the sanctuary, delicious food and drinks, items for sale and of course, many pigs to pet. Make your plans now to come join us.

SANCTUARY VISITS

We have no tours during the hottest months of June, July and August. Don't forget the summers are hot here and the pigs stay hidden most of the day, so try and plan your visit during a cool month.

Pigs to Best Friends

Ironwood and Best Friends Worked Together to Place Five Piggies



Recently I got a very unusual and pleasantly surprising e-mail. Adria from Best Friends Animal Society wanted to know if we had any pigs that they may offer a home to since their pig numbers were down and they get few requests to take in pigs. Imagine that!! Of course I said yes and how many!!

They are one of the largest and best known sanctuary/educational facilities in the country and members of our staff who have visited can attest to how well their animals are cared for.

We selected five of our sweet young pigs who are social and would enjoy the attention from visitors and volunteers. Once the arrangements were made Ronnie and Susan drove here from Kanab, Utah and on Tuesday, June 11th they took the pigs to their new home. It is always hard to see our piggies go but knowing they were in good hands made us happy for them.

Also it opened a few more spaces for the many on our list that are in need of a home. If only we could see the day that our numbers would be down because there were not enough people requesting us to take their pigs!

---Mary

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

Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

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

Used Blankets always welcome

*Cranberry Capsules (Equivalent to 25,000 mg of fruit)

*Flaxseed Oil Capsules (1,000 mg)

*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.

Fig Newton Cookies

Antacid comparable to Zantac, No Tums

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

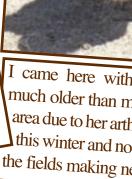
Sponsor



I used to live at the Annex but was recently moved to Ironwood because I was getting too thin. My friend Timone got to come with me which made the adjustment easier.



I came here to get some medical attention for some yucky hoof rot and ended up staying. My friend, Miss Piggy came along to keep me company and we both love it here!





I used to live at another sanctuary that has shut down. It was scary to make a move like that at my age, but the people here helped me adjust and take good care of me.



After many years of being supported at Ironwood, I have suddenly found myself without a sponsor! I'm a very talkative gal looking for a new friend.



I'm a fairly yo too well and a here understo smaller field like me. Hov

Special Pig!



my friend who was the. We lived in a small paritis. She passed away w I am living in one of the work friends.



My owner didn't want me or my two siblings, so she dumped us at a feed store where a nice lady bought all three of us then took us to Ironwood. How lucky was that!



I came here several years ago to be boarded but after a while my parents stopped paying for me and just abandoned me here. It turned out okay though because I really like living here.



oung guy, but I can't see m very shy. The people od that and put me in a with other shy pigs just y nice is that!

COME JOIN OUR FAMILY OF SPONSORS!

These are just a few of the pigs looking for a mom or dad. A monthly donation of \$30 will provide your pig's care and their share of sanctuary expenses. In exchange you will receive photos and a letter about your pig as well as new pictures and an



update on your pig during the upcoming year. I love sharing news about our pigs and look forward to having you become a "pig parent" here at

Ironwood!

....Donna

Morley Meets Alice

or a few years now it has been our policy to only adopt in pairs unless there was a compelling reason not to and there are few compelling reasons. One exception is if the people wanting to adopt want a companion for their pig. Such is the case with Alice who needed a friend.

We received an e-mail from one of our supporters about a little stray male pig in need of a home. As we learned more it turns out she had been told about this little pig by some others who knew she cared about animals. abandoned pig had been taken in by a family who intended to slaughter and eat him. Knowing this she asked if we would take him and when we agreed she ransomed him in order to save his life and brought him to Ironwood. Her husband had named him Morley. He was estimated to be about 1 ½ years old.

He was a shy little boar when he came, but he showed signs of wanting attention for sure. We had him neutered and very soon after that we got an e-mail from Shona who was looking for a companion for her 9-month-old spayed female, Alice.

Shona came to see our pigs who were available for adoption and she felt Morley would be the right pig for Alice. She came back again to visit him and we went to

do the yard check. Once all was approved we took Morley home to meet Alice. Following this



Morley

article is a series of partial e-mails and pictures of Alice and Morley and their progression as they got to know each other. I loved getting these e-mails and of course I sent them on to Joan who had saved Morley from his horrible fate. I think you will enjoy them also.

This is a wonderful story but I would like to make the point that so often I get e-mails from people who want to give their precious pig up because between the ages of one to three they suddenly become aggressive and charge friends who come to visit and family as well. This is very normal pig behavior and many pigs end up with us here at Ironwood because people will only take one pig. They are herd

animals and their instinct is to dominate. People soon become afraid of their friend and either give it away or push it out to a tiny pen where it will live the rest of its life in misery just because it is being a pig. There are things one can do and must if you are going to be the alpha in your family, but it is much easier and happier for all concerned to have two pigs. Enjoy this tale of Morley Meets Alice and how Alice changes because of a new friend.

"Things are good!
Morley never made a peep all the way home. He took to the new pen like it was always his. Alice is a bit aggressive towards him, but we're working on that.
Morley is so sweet he never shows any aggression towards Alice or the dogs. He doesn't run



away from Alice either though, so I think they will sort it out."
"Morley is doing great!
He's very special.
Thank you so much!"

"Alice is a little nicer to him every day. I'm really quite surprised how much improvement



there has been in just this short while. I'm quite confident they will do just fine."

"Just thought I would give you an update on Morley. He's such a happy little guy! I took down the pen separation a few weeks



ago. Alice and Morley have been doing fine together.
I caught this picture of them yesterday. They had been mulling around the whole yard all morning and finally had to have a nap. Alice sure gets a lot more exercise now! They snack on the weeds, rub on the trees, visit with the horses thru the



panels and root around in the old garden bed.

Morley is so adorable. You can call him from across the yard and his ears will prick up then he'll 'bark' and come running to you for a treat or belly rubs.

Again, thank you so much for allowing me to adopt him. He truly is a gem."

"We are just the lucky family to have Mr. Morley. Alice had already started being VERY pushy towards strangers and family that she thought she might get away with it and she just turned a year old. She was even starting to challenge the dogs. But since Morley came, that has already started to subside! He is very sweet to her, but keeps her in check when she tries to get too bossy. Someone besides me to put her back in her place.

Now Alice will hang out with the two older dogs instead of always moving them away from her. She has played with our youngest dog, while supervised, since she was a few months old. But about a month before Morley, the dog would ask Alice to play and Alice would just get angry and chase and try to bite. The dog did not understand that Alice was not playing....so they were not allowed to 'play' any longer. I made them stop immediately. But the other day, Alice asked the dog to play! And it was just play again, not aggressive like it had become. I am still leery of their play and will monitor it very carefully.

I know Alice will always be

pushy, but just like owning an aggressive dog you have to be a responsible owner and not put them in the position to be able to



hurt someone or be hurt by someone in the first place.

I have talked at least 3 people I know out of getting a pot-bellied pig for a family pet.
"They're so cute!" Is their reason for wanting one..... They have no idea, so I share everything I have learned from Ironwood as well as my own experiences and they all changed their mind. I just love and adore

Thank you so much for caring for all the unwanted piggies!

my piggies, but they are not a

good pet for everyone.

---Shona"

When you decide to take a companion animal into your home, please consider that animal's needs. Don't make the wrong decision for that animal to please your child or yourself. Their lives and needs and emotions must be considered just as yours must. Please adopt wisely.

---Mary

Some of Our Pigs' Needs

efore adopting out a pig we make sure that the adoptive home has all the pig's needs provided for. This article is how we provide for those same needs here at Ironwood.

Water:

Water is extremely important for the pot bellied pig. Not just for drinking but to help keep the pig cool in hot weather. Pigs do not sweat so it is necessary for them to get their bodies wet in order for the evaporating water to cool



them off. The sun can be very hot to a pot bellied pig even if the weather seems cool to us.

We provide a number of ways for our pigs to get water and cool off. We have automatic waterers throughout the sanctuary for drinking. These were designed for horses and other livestock that we use at ground level for our pigs. They fill automatically as the water is used. In addition, we have large bowls for water particularly in the areas where we feed for those pigs that like to have water when they eat. We

also have hundreds of kiddie wading pools for drinking water or for wallowing in order to cool off. And finally we have wallows



everywhere for all of the pigs that enjoy a wallow to cool off and want some protection from the sun with the mud that remains on their bodies.

We have three people every day in the summer watering for 5 to 6 hours each in the morning. They scrub and clean the automatic waterers, bowls and kiddie wading pools then top off the wallows. This provides water early before it gets hot and guarantees a supply that will last throughout the day.

We find that most of our pigs will not use a wallow to cool off when



the weather is cool. But there are always some pigs that use a wallow or pool for most of the year.

Shade:

We use shade hand in hand with water to keep our pigs comfortable. We make sure that shade is available all day and for all seasons particularly during the morning and afternoon when the sun may shine under a shade area that might be adequate at other times during the day. Our sun, particularly here in Arizona, can be intense even at 9 in the morning.

We love natural shade for our pigs but the natural shade we have here



is not adequate for all their needs. To compensate for this we have what we call shade ramadas everywhere. We usually put shade cloth on the south, east, and west sides as well as on top. Sometimes the shade area is large enough that dropped sides are not necessary. We usually put the kiddie wading pools and wallows under the shade ramadas so that the pigs do not have to lie in the sun while they cool off. Many of

our pigs love their shelters even though they might be hot during the summer. For these pigs we often put shade cloth over their shelters to keep them cooler. As an added measure we have applied "Cool Coat" to the roofs of our shelters.



One of the most important considerations is that it is essential that a new pig learn where the water and shade are in their area. We have an exercise yard where we put pigs from our pens for an hour or so every day to give them more space in order to meet other pigs through the safety of fencing and to stretch their legs. We have two water areas in the yard where each has drinking water, a wallow, a wading pool and shade. One new arrival did not know that water was available behind her and was trying to get to water on the other side of the fence. We noticed this while monitoring her and quickly directed her to one of the wallows. She could have died 30 feet from water that would have saved her life.

Shelter:

Pigs love their shelters. They like them dark during the day and we find many a pig in a hot shelter when they could be outside under a tree in warm weather. They also need shelter from the elements,

particularly the cold. In cold weather we provide our pigs with bedding hay and blankets in their shelters, along with a carpet door to keep out the cold wind and rain. We also coat the roofs of our shelters with a special white paint that is used to reduce the temperature of the roof in the summer. We suggested to one pig owner that he should have a shelter for his pig when it was in the yard during the day. owner thought that bringing the pig in every night was sufficient. But he decided to take our advice and got a shelter for his pig. That pig loved the shelter and used it all of the time, to the surprise of the owner.



Secure Fencing:

Pigs are very strong and able to push under many chain-link and other types of fences. We use a very heavy-gauge chain-link fence then use a metal tube to reinforce the bottom of the fence. We have 24 different fields and 30 pens and it is important that the pigs from one field or pen do not break into the adjoining field or pen. New pigs to a field will almost always fight with the resident pigs there. That is why we make every effort to keep our pigs secure in their field. We use

a 6-foot 9-gauge chain-link fence to enclose all of our pig areas. We also use hog panel and T-poles for our fencing within the 6-foot chain-link perimeter fence that works very well.



Adequate Space:

We provide a lot of space for our pigs to enjoy. A geriatric pig will not need as much space as a young pig, so our Phase I through Phase VI Assisted Living fields do not have as much space. Our larger fields with younger pigs have at least one acre each. This provides the pigs with plenty of space to roam if they want. We find that most of our pigs stay around the wallows and shade near the feeding areas. But there are those that travel to the far reaches of the field. You can see their paths where they wander the fence line, I imagine looking at the pristine vegetation beyond the fence.

---Ben



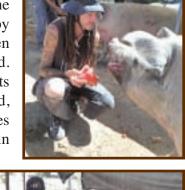
Happy Birthday Hogs!





ur hogs Blossom, Bubbles, Buttercup and Mojo Jojo celebrated their seventh birthday in June. The staff started the party off by singing "Happy Birthday" to the four siblings who have been with us since they were just a few days old. For their first treat each hog was hand fed its own fruit pie. They loved it! Second, everyone had a half of a cantaloupe. Bubbles grabbed hers and ran into the barn to eat it in secret. Next came a quarter of a

large watermelon. A fun messy time was had by all involved. After eating all their goodies, the hogs were given lots of pets and belly rubs except for Bubbles who kept rushing around looking for more food.

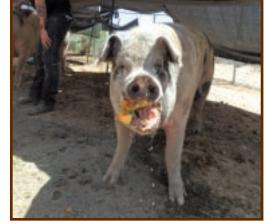




---Donna











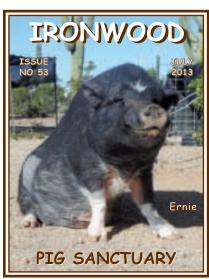


MISSION STATEMENT

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.

Front & Back Cover



Ernie and his brother Bert came to Ironwood December of 2006. Their owners were moving to a place where they could not take the pigs. This is one of the most common reasons we get pigs here at Ironwood. They are now fifteen years old. They still

live in our Sunset field together along with many other of their friends and are getting along very well. Ernie eats in one of our feeding pens as does Bert. Due to their age they are slowing down some, but Ernie has been healthy all these years.

Ernie came to us with a large scar on his right side. He must have encountered some significant trauma at some point in his life, but he has had a peaceful existence here at Ironwood and has always been a slightly shy but very mellow fellow.



Kaylee will not leave us again.
She has been shuffled around a lot but has

found her place with us for the remainder of her life. Way back, shortly after we opened, Kaylee came to board with us for an extended period. We all loved her then and when her people finally took her home we were sorry to see her go. They had rescued her in 2001 and did not know her age at that time. They released her to us when they were moving on to Utah and we immediately adopted her out to a care giver close to us. We wanted her to have a special place to be with individual care. The care giver soon moved on and she was left with Sandy who owned the property. She was very busy with many other rescued animals and did not feel Kaylee was getting the care she deserved and needed, so we were happy to bring her home to us in March of 2012.

I am so glad she is home with us. I tell her that every time I see her and give her a belly rub. She loves the extra attention and has settled in with a number of friends who are old like herself. When she boarded with us she wanted nothing to do with other pigs but that was then and now she has a small area with older friends and is happy and content.

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www.facebook.com/IronwoodPigSanctuary

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