

New Beginnings.....



ANNUAL REPORT
2007—2008



Mirage in one of the pastures

The mission of Redwings Horse Sanctuary is to eliminate the causes of equine suffering through education and community outreach programs, rescue abused and neglected equines, and to provide permanent sanctuary or selected foster homes for rescued equines.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is truly amazing to me that what had started out as two or three women trying to save equines from slaughter with no funding has morphed into an organization with a working budget of over \$400,000, a small and wonderful staff, a working Board of Directors, volunteers, and over 80 equines all within such a short period of time. Although Redwings has been funded by some grants throughout the years, this organization would not have been possible without the continuing and very generous backing of Redwings supporters.

Our year started off on a fairly good note in June. However, Pigeon Fever struck the sanctuary in September. The highly contagious disease swept through the sanctuary affecting more than 17 equines. This painful disease was particularly tough on the older equines. Not only was this disease hard on the equines, it was very stressful on the staff, helping horses in pain and not being able to prevent new cases. When it was finally over, Redwings had lost some long time residents.

With the outbreak of the Pigeon Fever and its accumulating medical costs, the higher cost of feed, and the economic decline, things were beginning to look pretty bad. But...with Redwings supporter's memberships, donations and our direct mail campaign, we made it through the fiscal year. At the end of May, Redwings received several bequests which allowed the organization to pay down many debts which had accumulated during the epidemic.

We are starting our new fiscal year in a good place. Redwings horses are now healthy and happy. My hope for the coming year is to expand our grant writing to provide for permanent pastures and irrigation. These projects are now in the works and when completed will not only financially save the organization (from having to purchase hay) but will help the horses. We also need to continue to publicize the plight of these equines and make people aware of their suffering. In doing this, I'm sure this coming year will be one of the best ever.

Pat Bissett

Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Pat Bissett President	Michelle Beagle Vice-President	Margaret Leighton Secretary	Dorothy Beagle Treasurer
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DIRECTORS

Chris Abila	Roz Bailey	Evelyn Marion
Tricia Porter	Forrest Tanaka	Joan Volberg
		Lee Worthington

Honorary Board

Jack Clifton
Mark O'Connor, Esq.
Stephanie Roundy, Esq.

Advisory Board

Heather Baker, DVM	Richard Clark, DVM
Ed Mitchell	Jan Mitchell
Barbara Stallings	Valerie Moulé

ABOUT REDWINGS

Redwings Horse Sanctuary believes that every horse, burro, and pony deserves humane care. Our vision is that no equine will need sanctuary and that every equine's needs will be satisfied by their owners. The horses at our Sanctuary are representatives of their plights, teaching our visitors and supporters about the need for humane care for equines. These ambassadors show what happens when humane care is not given and what can result when receiving proper care.

Redwings provides a permanent sanctuary to those equines for which no other options exist. Once an equine is formally transferred to Redwings, it stays with Redwings for the rest of its life. We rarely receive funds for taking in these equines. Funding is primarily from donations and grants.

Decisions are based on "how does it help the horses?" If Redwings' objectives and strategies help the horses both long and short-term, then our mission is being met.

Redwings Horse Sanctuary (incorporated as Horsepower Sanctuaries) began in 1991 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in Carmel, California with a mission to end the abuse and neglect of equines through rescue, rehabilitation, and adoption. Although Redwings saved many equines, we realized that adoption was a temporary solution which often led to a perpetual cycle of abuse and abandonment.

In 1992, Redwings expanded its mission to offer rescued equines a permanent home, while offering educational community outreach programs to prevent other equines from needing sanctuary.

In 2002, Redwings moved to a 160-acre ranch in Lockwood, California and is home to over 80 horses, ponies, and burros for the rest of their lives.

SUPPORTERS

Redwings would be unable to continue its efforts without the generous support of individual donors, grantors, and local businesses. They recognize the importance of our mission and the commitment we have made not only to our rescued equines, but to equines everywhere. It is a large undertaking, but every horse, burro, or pony that we can help live a healthy and cared for life makes it worthwhile. We can't rescue all, but we can make a difference.....and so can our supporters.

This year Redwings received several significant bequests. We want to express our gratitude to these supporters who cared enough about Redwings to name us as a beneficiary in their estates. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families. Redwings is able to continue its efforts through not only immediate donations and grants, but through the foresight of its friends.

If you would like to explore options on the variety of ways you can help the equines of Redwings, please call our office at (831) 386-0135 or email: info@redwings.org.

With help from our supporters, our equines can have a new beginning.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The equines at Redwings receive a new beginning and opportunity for a healthier and more loving and peaceful life. Below are highlights of Redwings happenings in 2007-2008.

Rescue of Abused and Neglected Equines

In an ideal world, Redwings would take in all equines needing sanctuary. With limited resources, Redwings' focus must remain on those animals with the greatest need. The following equines came to Lockwood this past year and are now living their lives at the Sanctuary.

Last year Lacey was rescued from a feedlot in Nevada as she was to be shipped to a slaughter house in Canada. Lacey, a beautiful Overo paint, was in poor health when she arrived in Lockwood. With care and love she began to gain weight and regain her health. As she continued to gain weight, a vet check confirmed that she was pregnant! On April 19, 2008, Lacey gave birth to a beautiful filly named Laura Ann ("Annie"). It was a joyous time at Redwings and Annie's first moments of life were captured on a video that can be viewed from the Redwings website. While Lacey's story has a happy ending, it is not unknown for mares to be impregnated and then sold for slaughter. More weight means more money. Redwings was able to save not one, but two lives!



Annie



Takoda

A beautiful 4 year old appaloosa, named Lippy, came to Redwings after being seized with five other horses by Santa Barbara Animal Control. Four were adopted, but Lippy and Ginny were considered unadoptable. Lippy had suffered an accident in a cattle chute severing the nerves at the top of his head. The damage numbed his left eye, ear, and mouth. Wanting to provide a more dignified name, he was honored in a Naming Ceremony and is now known as Takoda (Sioux meaning "Friend to all").

Ginny is a chestnut Quarter horse about 20 years old. At some point in her life she broke the top of her withers and in another accident damaged her hind legs. Yet another injury left the skin very thin and tender in one place on her back. Neither Takoda or Ginny can be ridden. They have found their new beginnings and forever home at Redwings.



Ginny

Unlike most equine sanctuaries, Redwings does not have an adoption program. Instead, Redwings occasionally places equines that appear sound in mind and body, with carefully screened foster guardians. The foster guardian is in complete charge of the equine's care, while Redwings retains title. By retaining title, if circumstances change for the equine or guardian, the horse is returned to the Sanctuary.



Pegasus

When only a yearling, Pegasus and his mother escaped from their pasture and were hit by a car. The owners then abandoned them. After receiving emergency treatment they came to Redwings. The mare recovered and was placed in a home, but Pegasus suffered numerous ailments from the incident. While his health eventually returned, he became distrustful of humans, likely due to receiving constant injections of medicine. Not sound enough to ride, a trainer working with him became his foster guardian for seven years. Due to personal circumstances, the trainer needed to return Pegasus to Redwings. He is now back with his pasture buddies from before where he will remain for the rest of his life.

Pigeon Fever

Caring for equines is costly. Many of the equines at Redwings need medical care, either because they arrived in poor health, or they are reaching the end of their lives at the Sanctuary. The year was particularly difficult with an outbreak of Pigeon Fever at Redwings and many other places in California. Pigeon Fever itself is not necessarily life threatening, but it is contagious and difficult to treat. Older and infirmed equines with poor immune systems were particularly hard hit. It took most of a year for the disease to run its course through the Sanctuary. The toll was not only on the equines, but on the volunteers, staff, and financial resources of Redwings. Seventeen equines were afflicted. Sadly two of our older equines had to be humanely euthanized due to complications from the illness.

Providing Permanent Sanctuary

This year saw the loss of several of our equines. It is important to honor them by recalling their stories. Their stories, shared with our visitors and supporters, serve to educate and raise awareness of the suffering some horses must endure. They were given a new beginning at Redwings, and though they have left us, their stories and our memories remain.

Molly C was not at Redwings very long, having been rescued in May 2007 along with Lacey from a feedlot in Nevada headed for slaughter. She was in her twenties and suffering from a chronic lung disease, a cystic uterus, and an episode of laminitis. It was apparent that her health would not improve. The difficult, but most loving decision was to humanely euthanize Molly C. While she was with us for only a short time, she was loved and cared for and, we believe, had a peaceful end to her life.

Redwings maintains a satellite facility in Prunedale, California. Spring of 2008 brought much sadness when two of the equines had to be humanely euthanized. Jasmine was one of the original Redwings Horse Sanctuary rescues, and she inspired us to be come a sanctuary due to her behavior. She had been so abused that she could not deal with people. She would quake with fear when a human approached her. It took years for her to become calm enough to be handled in any way. As she aged, she had become much more accepting, and actually looked for human contact. She was over 34 years old, and had been doing well, but two falls early in the year had taken their toll. Susan, a Percheron, was a sweetheart. Sometimes she was aloof, but most of the time she loved the attention and grooming. Susan fell while out in the field and even with the heroic efforts of many volunteers, was unable, or perhaps unwilling, to get up. She was a dignified 27 years old and a patient teacher for new volunteers.



Jasmine
(above),
Susan
(right)



Goldie and Rommel were victims of Pigeon Fever. Rommel arrived at Redwings in 1995. He had been a parade and state park patrol horse until he became permanently lame and unrideable. As he was no longer "useful" he was going to be sent to slaughter. A Redwings supporter intervened and took him in. When health problems made it impossible to provide care for Rommel, Redwings offered to give him a loving home for the rest of his life. At 33 years of age, his system was too weak to fight Pigeon Fever. Goldie was provided a loving home for the first 30 years of her life. When her owner could no longer keep her she was taken in by the Santa Cruz SPCA. However, for financial reasons, they could no longer keep her. At her age, Goldie had no place to go.

Although Redwings had limited space, we realized she needed to come to Redwings. Goldie was an amazing 44 years of age when it came time to humanely euthanize her.



Goldie (top), Rommel
(bottom)

Memorials at Lockwood

Redwings offers donors several ways to honor the memory of loved ones. The Memorial Garden is simple and peaceful and offers a nice place to view as entering the sanctuary's education center. The Memorial Grove is young, but will become a place where people can sit and reflect under the trees, and meander along paths.

Biography stations are placed throughout the facility. These shaded benches provide a place to remember past friends while learning about the horses in the pasture next door. Memorial donations can be for plants and trees, benches, or other structures.

Education and Outreach

Education is a crucial part of ending equine cruelty. Redwings reaches out to the public in a variety of ways.

Newsletter – Our newsletter, published 7 times a year, reaches over 4,000 people with each issue. It includes informational articles on a variety of topics such as considering the long-term consequences of horse owners breeding their mares, the effect of the economy on rescue organizations, and horse slaughter issues.

Web site – The Redwings web site is a source of information that educates and informs the public. Board member, Michelle Beagle, started a blog of what is involved in running a sanctuary and provides a diary of activities. (<http://redwingshorsesanctuary.blogspot.com/>)

Events – Redwings held HorsePlay VII, its primary fundraising event, at the exquisite Chateau Julien in Carmel. This annual auction and wine social celebrates Redwings. The Haunted Barn, a fun event for the family during the month of October, is our other major fundraising event held in the Tin Cannery, Pacific Grove. Redwings thanks the many individuals and businesses for their support of these and other activities throughout the year.

Open Houses - The Sanctuary is open year-round to visitors Monday through Friday and Saturday by appointment. From March through October, Redwings hosts Open Houses where visitors are given tours of the Sanctuary. Board members and volunteers talk about Redwings, equine issues, and share stories of our equines. Open Houses spotlight a particular aspect of the sanctuary, such as a Baby Shower for our new filly, Annie, and a renaming ceremony for Takoda. Getting to know the Mustangs and draft horses of Redwings were other themes.



Visitors at an Open House meeting "Ben" and learning about draft horses.

Group Visits - Redwings hosted the San Luis Obispo County Photographer Club for a session in the pastures photographing our varied herd of rescued horses. Students participating in Leadership Monterey Peninsula spent a day at Ranch Forgotten, Redwings' satellite location.

Classes – Redwings periodically offers a variety of classes to educate on the proper care and handling of horses. Classes are held at the Sanctuary in Lockwood and our satellite facility Ranch Forgotten. While the classes focus on the horses at Redwings, the information shared reaches a larger audience as class attendees share their knowledge with others.

Redwings Booth – Redwings volunteers attend a variety of events throughout California, including the Salinas Rodeo, Horse Expo in Sacramento, and the Equine Affaire in Paso Robles. By attending these functions we raise awareness of cruelty and neglect and let people know what they can do to help.

Sponsorships – An important means of support for Redwings' equines comes through sponsorships. While many of our equines' stories are compelling, there are some that particularly touch the hearts of many. Sponsors feel a special connection to their sponsored horse and receive updated reports throughout the year. Sponsorships remain one of our strongest sources of income.

Communications – Redwings receives numerous telephone and email communications on a variety of issues from health questions, to reports of neglect, to people looking for a home for their equine. We also manage a message board provide a national forum for discussion of issues. We see these various means of communication as opportunities to answer questions, intervene if necessary, and to provide people with information and assistance. As appropriate, Redwings will refer callers to other resources.

Unfortunately, the majority of our calls are from horse owners seeking a new home for their horse. It is very emotional to hear of horses no longer wanted, whether it be due to their age, medical condition, loss of interest, or financial difficulties of the owner. In most cases, all we can do is provide the caller with options to consider, including humane euthanasia.

The types of telephone calls, other than those for information about the sanctuary fall into these categories:

Take my horse	117
Looking for a horse	13
Reporting abuse/neglect	11

Photo Acknowledgements

The beautiful photos in this Annual Report are provided by Forrest Tanaka, Leora Worthington and Pat Bissett.

Hearts for Hooves

The Hearts for Hooves program is designed to encourage younger folk who are learning the joys of giving by helping fund our rescue organization. Our young supporters have requested donations in lieu of birthday presents, held yard sales or found other innovative ways to sponsor horses and become members. Their love and compassion bring hope for a better and safer place for humans and animals. This year Hearts for Hooves welcomed seven new members.



Some of the faces of Redwings who found a new beginning.

Disaster Assistance

The fire season began early. In May 2008 two local fires consumed thousands of acres. In June California was ablaze with over 2,000 fires. Locally, the fires that roared through Monterey and Santa Cruz counties hit areas where many equines, pets, and livestock are kept.

As one can imagine, there is a great deal of chaos and frantic attempts to evacuate animals from danger. Emergency teams and evacuation centers were setup.

Redwings moved into action and through emails and phone calls, our volunteers were coordinated and provided information on ways to help. They assisted with feeding and cleaning horse stalls at evacuation centers. Redwings also reached into its limited resources to provide feed for the affected horses.

We want to express our gratitude to all individuals who joined forces to help. It is a testament to the compassion of animal lovers and a sense of community.

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Operating budget for 2007/2008 For the year ended May 31, 2008

INCOME

Support

Donations	\$	264,763
Trust funds/Bequests		145,252 (see Note)
Grants		82,129
In-kind donations		14,761
Sponsorships/Memberships		<u>38,288</u>
Total Support		545,193

Revenue

Merchandise Sales	\$	4,064
Events		23,873
Rental Income		6,283
Miscellaneous		<u>2,016</u>
Total Revenue		36,236

TOTAL INCOME **581,429**

EXPENSES

Office Expenses	\$	32,547
Shipping & Handling		13,041
Merchandise Cost		4,668
Rescued Equine Care		130,843 (See box on pg. 9)
Education/Publicity/Events		22,240
Rent & Property		26,413
Ranch Improvements/Maintenance		43,348
Insurance		23,988
Payroll		203,623
Miscellaneous		<u>3,316</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES **504,027**

PROFIT (LOSS) **\$ 77,402**

(See note below)

Note: Redwings faced enormous financial challenges during 2007-2008. If it were not for bequests received at the end of the year, ongoing care of our equines would be incredibly challenging. What is not reflected in the Statement of Activities are outstanding bills to be paid in 2008-2009. Our year-end profit will dwindle quickly. We are incredibly grateful for our friends who named Redwings as a beneficiary in their wills.

Redwings uses the services of a direct mail fundraising company from which a portion of our donations are received. Gross donations and expenses generated by the company are not incorporated into the Statement of Finances. Those figures will appear in the 2007/08 Audited Financial Statement and 2007 Form 990. Those documents will be available upon request once completed. The donations line in this Annual Report includes distributions from the direct mail company.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
For the year ended May 31, 2008

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	95,423
Inventory/Merchandise		5,682
Prepaid insurance		<u>5,897</u>
Total current assets		107,002

Fixed Assets

Office Equipment/software	\$	52,754
Ranch Vehicles & Machinery		100,305
Property, Corrals, Barns		185,015
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(220,478)</u>
Total fixed assets		117,596

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 224,598**

LIABILITIES and EQUITIES

Liabilities

Payroll liabilities	\$	10,338
Accounts payable		1,311
Note payable		16,748
Sales Tax payable		663
Long-term Liabilities		<u>5,935</u>
Total Liabilities		34,995

Equities

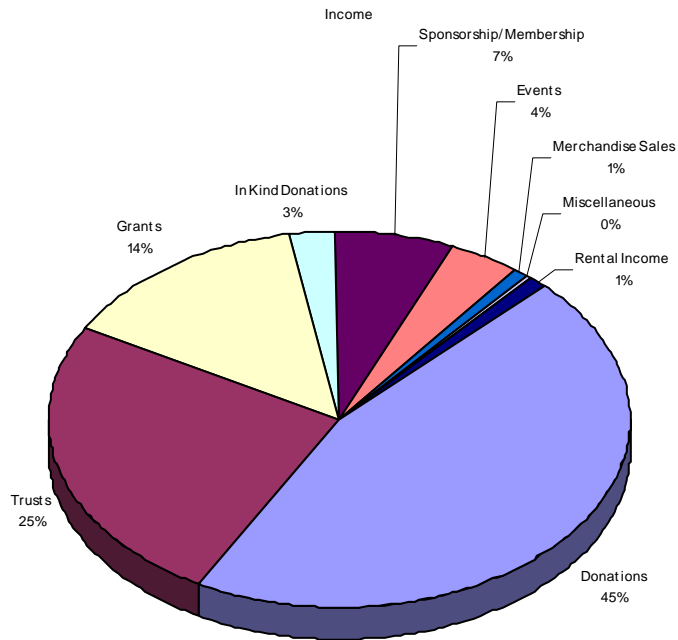
Unrestricted funds	\$	77,277
Temporarily restricted funds		22,500
Net Income		76,551
Retained earnings		<u>13,275</u>
Total Equities		189,603

TOTAL LIABILITIES and EQUITIES **\$ 224,598**

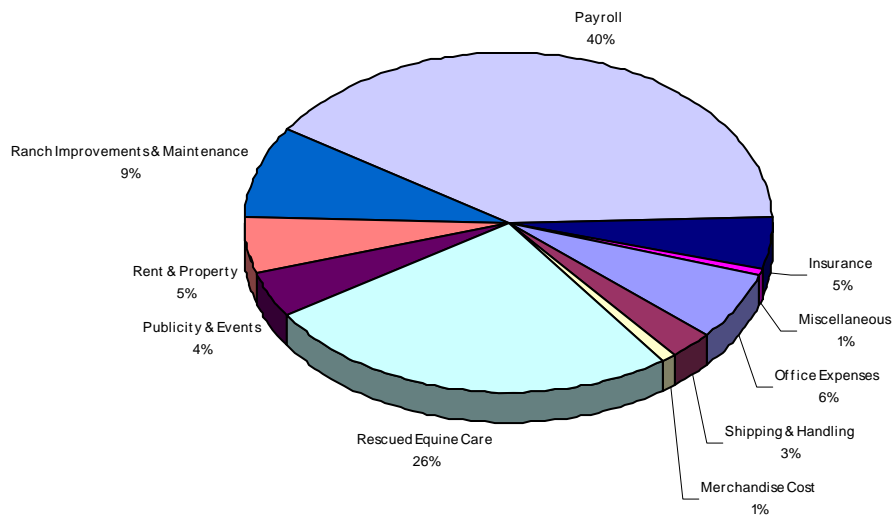
Rescued Equine Care

Costs to care for our rescued equines encompass most components of Redwings' operation, including payroll, ranch maintenance and improvements, insurance, and more. The following expenses are those most directly applicable to the care of our equines this year. The outbreak of Pigeon Fever and skyrocketing feed costs this year significantly impacted our resources. What is not reflected is those suppliers who generously allowed us to delay payment for services and supplies, which in most cases were paid in June 2008.

	2007-08	2006-07
Bedding/feed	\$ 79,884	\$ 50,474
Veterinarian/Farrier	22,741	15,708
Medicine/Medical Supplies	23,490	15,871
Rehabilitation/Training	1,415	5,323
Equipment/Supplies/Misc	2,563	3,476
Euthanasia	<u>750</u>	<u>1,051</u>
	\$130,843	\$ 91,903



Expenses



STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Redwings' success depends on its team of dedicated staff and our incredible volunteers.

Jeaniene King – Ranch Manager
Pam Shreeves – Office Clerk
Jan Pritchard – Bookkeeper

Ranch Hands:
Jose Luis de Santos ~ Jesus Molina ~ Gonzalo Castro

Medical care for Redwings' animals is coordinated by Board member, Michelle Beagle, a licensed Veterinary Technician. Delilah Kasting joined Redwings as our Equine Care Provider.

Volunteers are critical to the functioning of Redwings. From grooming and feeding horses at the Sanctuary in Lockwood and at the satellite facility, Ranch Forgotten, to conducting tours of the Sanctuary, helping in the office, organizing and staffing events, handling publicity.....they do so much.

Hours

1,433 Ranch Forgotten (direct equine care)
942 Lockwood Volunteers
3,207 Board of Directors: Redwings' Directors do much more than attend meetings as evident from the number of hours they have devoted to Redwings in the past year.

5,582 TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS



Jenny—one of Redwings' rescued burros.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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HorsePower Sanctuaries Nonprofit tax ID #77-0269641



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