

ANNUAL REPORT

2009—2010

Running Free



Redwings Horse Sanctuary

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Non-profit tax ID: 77-0269641



President's Report

Since taking on the title and duties of President of the Board of Directors for Redwings Horse Sanctuary in June 2009, I have been blessed with many great opportunities to bring improvement to our organization and to help our rescued equines in numerous ways. I would like to acknowledge all the people who have contributed to this effort as we look to a new year at Redwings.

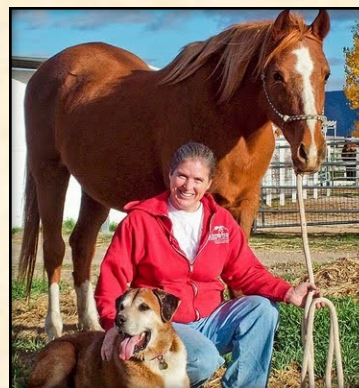
Our long-time supporters know me from our days in Carmel, California, and I have been associated with the work of Redwings since 1993 and have been on the Board of Directors since 1995. I have been directly responsible for the horses' health as Equine Care Coordinator for many years and still hold this position. However, our able and very talented Equine Care Provider, Delilah Kasting, has stepped up and taken on more responsibilities, allowing me more time for my varied duties as President. Our Veterinarians Dr. Richard Clark and Dr. Heather Baker are another huge part of the success we have in caring for our rescued horses.

Board member and Volunteer Coordinator, Roz Bailey, has taken on Vice Presidential duties and has been a constant source of advice and help. Along with our other Board members, we all volunteer our services and work incredibly hard for our horses and their welfare.

The daily running of the Sanctuary could not function without our dedicated staff. From our office staff to our ranch hands and trainers, we find enthusiastic, talented, and hard-working individuals who care passionately about our goals and feel proud of the work we all do for our rescued horses and our education mission.

Volunteers also hold a great place in our hearts. These people graciously give their time and love to help care for the rescued horses of Redwings Horse Sanctuary. We would not be as effective without their help.

Michelle Beagle



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.

Board of Directors

Michelle Beagle
President

Roz Bailey
Vice President

Margaret Leighton
Secretary

Dorothy Beagle
Treasurer

Tricia Porter
Joan Volberg

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

Staff

Redwings' success and the care and health of our equines and burros depends on a team of dedicated staff.

Pam Shreeves – Office Clerk

Jan Pritchard – Bookkeeper

Delilah Kasting - Equine Care Provider

Ranch Hands

Jose Luis de Santos ~ Jesus Molina ~ Gonzalo Castro ~ Huber Rodriguez

Pryor Mountain Wild Horses

In 2000, a herd of 110 starving mustangs was discovered crowded into two acres in Montana. Most of this herd had been captured by the Bureau of Land Management and adopted by an elderly caretaker with the hopes of preserving the magnificent Pryor Mountain Mustang line. But his health had declined, his finances had dwindled, and his property was sold. The stallions had not been gelded, allowing them to breed with the adopted mares in an uncontrolled manner. When their foals were born, conditions became so crowded that their umbilical cords were torn from them, leaving open and infected holes. Neighbors tipped off local authorities who confiscated the herd—many in danger of winding up auctioned to slaughterhouses. Redwings helped find other organizations to help with the placement of these horses.



The Pryor Mountain Mustang is special because its Old World heritage has been genetically confirmed. This tough horse, derived from the horses of Portugal and Spain, has ranged the rugged mountain areas between Wyoming and Montana for 200 years. Native Americans, particularly the Crow, likely brought the Mustang to the Pryor Mountains where they enjoyed a symbiotic relationship. The horse and the people maintained a close link in all aspects of Native American life.

We at Redwings feel that this centuries-long bond with humans give it much honor.

Redwings placed the most malnourished horses in safe care until they were strong enough to travel, and then facilitated the transportation of several of the herd to California. The remaining that survived from the original 110 were placed at other sanctuaries.

Today, 18 mustangs freely roam a dedicated 30-acre habitat at the Redwings sanctuary in Lockwood. We allow them to be nearly wild with very little need for human interference. Redwings hosts special excursions into their pasture, allowing visitors to see them act much like the wild herds before acting like friendly and inquisitive ranch horses.

Visit Redwings and learn more about wild horses and burros. You can also sign up to receive the Mustangs' Diary. This special sponsorship package supports not one horse, but our entire herd of mustangs. With this package, you receive a binder with an introduction to our herd, as well as a letter from the lead mare of the herd, Ellie. Each month, you'll receive a letter from another herd member. If you renew your membership after a year, you'll receive a divider and continue to receive stories from the rest of the herd.

You can learn more about the Pryor Mountain mustang from the Pryor Mountain Wild Mustang Center web site (www.pryormustangs.org).

Burro Herd

Redwings Horse Sanctuary is home to a herd of burros that had been rounded up in Death Valley by the Parks Service. Had Redwings and other equine rescue organizations not intervened, these burros would have been shot.



The burro arrived in the Americas with the Spanish explorers and served in a variety of packing and farming jobs. During the gold and silver rushes burros became popular with miners who used them to pack their possessions while prospecting. When the precious metal veins disappeared the miners left their burros behind to fend for themselves. When the automobile arrived many more burros were turned loose, adding to the wild herds.

The Redwings burros are their descendants. Today burros are considered non-indigenous (alien to North America), and are being wiped out. Those advocating extermination claim burros compete with wildlife and livestock. Others defend and rescue burros to safe sanctuaries like Redwings.

The Redwings burros form a mob of long-ears who greet visitors at our gate. They crowd around to be brushed and petted, and fill each evening with a symphony of braying.

Spreading the Word

In 2009, Redwings began posting blogs as a means to share stories of our equines, burros, and activities to a wider audience. The wide variety of rescues Redwings has conducted over the years are shared in the Blogs. Examples include rescues of our wild horse and burro herds, efforts of other individuals to rescue and rehabilitate horses to which Redwings was able to provide some assistance, and stories of some of our rescues. "Horse of the Month" shares the story of one of our horses.

A part of Redwings' mission is to educate the public and conduct outreach. Sharing stories of horses and burros serves as a way to educate. Every horse at Redwings' has its own unique and many times tragic story. We are committed to taking in those horses that are unlikely to be

adopted, rehabilitated, or rescued by anyone else. There can be exceptions, particularly if the story can serve as another means of education. Stories such as Topper (see page 5) show that even with the best intentions of owners who care, the outcome of their horses may not be a happy ending if Redwings did not step in.

The blogs also update the public on happenings at Redwings such as groups visiting our facility in Lockwood, highlighting some of our volunteers and staff, and giving the public an idea of what goes on at Redwings to ensure all the animals in our care receive everything they need to live out their lives, free from the less than ideal situations most came from.

Want to read more? Check out our website, <http://redwingshorsesanctuary.blogspot.com>.

Sharing our Mission

Most of our supporters keep up to date about Redwings through our newsletters and web site. One of the more rewarding ways for staff and volunteers to share Redwings' mission is with the public that come to Lockwood to visit our equines and burros up close, hear their stories, and see in person the great work done at our facility.

Redwings open houses have special themes once a month during the spring, summer, and fall months, and this year's popular series of open houses has come to a happy end with a special treat on October 17. Father Dennis from nearby Fort Hunter Liggett performed a lovely ceremony to bless the animals at our Lockwood ranch. An air of peace among the people and the horses fell as the blessing proceeded. Father Dennis enjoyed the human and equine company while he



walked through the ranch blessing each of them in the cloudless beautiful sunshine.

Redwings has hosted many kinds of animal blessings—from Celtic to Native American, and now Catholic.

Our involvement in the local communities has provided opportunities to share our information at meetings and to invite groups to visit us in Lockwood. The Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce members came in several large chartered busses. Redwings also hosted a visit of student veterinary technicians from Carrington College.

What can be particularly touching for all involved is a visit from someone who has sponsored one of the horses and they come to see "their" horse. Our sponsors make a personal connection and to see, and in some cases, be able to get up close can be a very touching and emotional experience. Such was the case of a visitor who sponsors Takoda, but Pearl decided she was okay and accepted a hug.



Redwings' Supporters

As a non-profit charity, Redwings existence depends on the generosity of others through financial contributions, volunteer time, and grants. Our financial contributions come from a variety of sources. Redwings provides memberships and sponsorships. Individual horses can be sponsored and people can also provide support by sponsoring an aspect of our memorial garden and benches and other setups throughout the facility. We hold a variety of fundraising activities throughout the year. Redwings' work and mission have spread across the country through its fundraising efforts guided by Fundraising Strategies, Inc.

Redwings is thankful for support provided by several foundations that see the importance of what we do and help us tackle our larger projects like improving our water storage, irrigation, and structures for the benefit of our equines.

Every year we are blessed with gifts received from trust funds and wills set up by those who care about the plight of equines in distress and recognize Redwings' efforts to care for those animals whose options had run out. This year we had several very generous gifts.

In addition of financial support, Redwings depends on those individuals willing to give of their time and in-kind resources. They care for the horses at Lockwood and our satellite facility, Ranch Forgotten by cleaning stalls and paddocks, feeding, grooming and keeping a watchful eye over the animals. Volunteers help with our events and do office work. Our Board of Directors all volunteer their time to support Redwings.

Did you know...

Redwings spends

- \$19,000 (average) per year on veterinary costs
- \$10,000 (average) for farrier services

Some of Redwings' professional equine care providers provide discounted rates to take care of our horses, ponies, and burros. But that is not always possible.

Many of the horses we rescue need immediate medical care. Some of our older horses require regular treatments of expensive medications and the chances of neglected and abused horses having major medical problems are high.

When Redwings rescues an equine, we make the commitment to provide regular vaccinations, deworming and dental work in addition to supplements and prescription medication. We also ensure their feet are properly cared for since many times horses arrive with severe hoof disease and damage.

Your financial contributions help us take proper care of our horses through the remainder of their lives.

Volunteerism at Redwings

As with most non-profits, we could not survive without our volunteers. Our volunteer Board of Directors put in a whopping 3,241 hours in 2010. At the Sanctuary in Lockwood, volunteers gave 558 hours of their time to care for the horses and help out in the office.

A small group of horses reside at Ranch Forgotten and need the same care and attention as those at Lockwood. One Redwings' fundraiser is the Haunted Barn held the month of October. Volunteers provided over 2,600 hours of support for both of these areas in 2010.

Even with this tremendous amount of support, the need for volunteers continues. If you would like to help in some way, contact Redwings.

New Arrivals

Split My Zipper, more affectionately named Topper, is a Quarter Horse gelding born February 26, 1994 to one of the top amateur showers in the state of California. Topper trained as a halter and western pleasure show horse.



Topper

Topper sustained a tendon injury resulting in a calcified tendon. That meant his days of western pleasure, as well as any other riding, were over. His owner tried to find him a home as a companion animal. But several failed attempts left him with no apparent options until a vet had an unusual suggestion: Topper could provide plasma to use for other horses in need. His owner quickly agreed, and Topper found a new home at one of these facilities. Topper's blood provided antibodies that have helped save countless horses and foals that have had life-threatening diseases. This collection does not affect Topper's health, and does not leave him without the antibodies that he needs for his day-to-day survival. Topper was under the care of this facility for six years in this critical life-saving role. The plasma facility contacted the owners because he could no longer provide enough antibodies without endangering his own health. His former owners had no place for him because they had moved. They were referred to Redwings where the staff and board found his story unusual and inspiring. On September 4, 2009, Topper arrived at his new home at the Redwings ranch in Lockwood where he will teach people about the needs of sick horses, and how his blood provided for them. Committed to a lifetime of community service and equine health education, Topper deserves his place in our pastures where he will help us extend our commitment to equine education.

“Champ’s” story starts out at a winery in San Miguel, California. Champ is a small pony-sized bay Arabian gelding. He is at least 30 years old. He lived next to the winery alone. He had an owner nearby who fed him occasionally, but did not care or provide for him.

The winery decided that they needed the land that Champ lived on to build a new tasting room and Champ had to go. If he didn't find a new home immediately he would have to be destroyed. A nearby horse owner, a kind lady, knew of Champ and his predicament. His owner told the lady that if she didn't find him a home he would give him away as dog food!

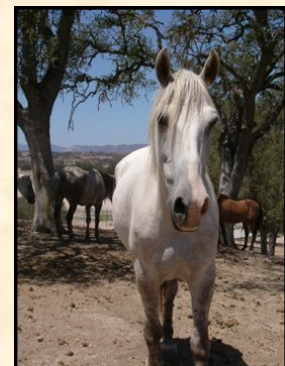
Champ deserved better than a trip to the slaughterhouse. He was sweet and well-behaved. The kind lady took Champ to save him from this fate. She paid for him to be boarded at a local stable temporarily and then contacted Redwings for help. With five horses already in her care, she could not afford another horse - could Redwings possibly help this little guy and provide him with a permanent, safe home?

Redwings agreed that Champ deserved to live out the rest of his days with other companion horses, at a place where he could be safe, cared-for and well-fed. So Champ came to his last home at Redwings in Lockwood.

Running Free Forever

Redwings pays homage to the gentle souls we have been blessed to care for. The loss of any of the animals at our facilities is always difficult, but Redwings staff and volunteers know the horses and burros left this world surrounded by love and gentleness and are now free of neglect, abuse, and fear.

Chocolate was one of the Pryor mustang herd (see page 2). His body condition was skeletal, as were his many stunted yearling herd members. Redwings took the worst cases, as no one wanted them. Chocolate was one of the less likely to allow people to handle him. Those who did get to touch him felt very special indeed.



Chocolate

We were blessed to enjoy 9 years with him. We'll miss one of our favorites. One of the magical connections to North American history has moved on to meet up with old herd members running free in the stars.

One of the early rescued burros of our organization, Fanny, left us in February, 2010. Fanny a lovely dark brown burro was originally snatched from the jaws of death at a local auction. She and another burro Pal had been good friends here. He had been a donkey rescued from the same auction house. These two spent many years together in Carmel, until Pal had problems with his feet and body that led to



Fanny

our humanely euthanizing him. Fanny was introduced to the large wild burro herd soon after, and fit in very well. She was a real "in charge" sort of burro. She reigned as a leader in the herd for quite some time. Fanny was one of the burros that always loved human interaction. She helped teach many a visitor or volunteer that Burros have a great love for people if they aren't afraid.

In her later years, she developed Cushing's disease, and more recently hoof problems that affected her quality of life. Fanny left us and is surely off to greet her long lost Pal, and her herd mates Daisy and Belle.

Duchess came to Redwings after suffering a broken bone from racing on the racetrack as a young horse. As she developed problems in here good foot, it became difficult to treat as she had trouble standing on her injured foot. Given the amount of pain she was in, and that the situation would not improve, Duchess was humanely euthanized in June 2009.

Of interest....

The number of Redwings' equines fluctuates as new horses are accepted and others have reached the end of their lives.

Over the year, Redwings tends to approximately 86 horses and burros. Of those, 33 need prescription medicine, and 18 are on supplements.

This is a huge cost in dollars and staff time to administer to our animals on a daily basis.



Financial Statement

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the year ended May 31, 2010

INCOME

Support and Revenue	
Donations	\$ 991,888
Bequests	166,122
Grants	40,829
Sponsorships	16,673
Memberships	315
Merchandise sales—net	(2,291)
Special Events	6,289
Investment income	22,994
Other revenue	15,043
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,257,862

EXPENSES

Office Expenses	\$ 282,958
Fundraising/Educational Mailings	248,953
Rescued Equine Care	169,171
Publicity and Events	146,711
Rent and Property	44,721
Ranch Improvements/Maintenance	72,129
Insurance	39,861
Payroll	215,446
Miscellaneous	50,226
Depreciation	28,702
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,298,878
REVENUE LESS EXPENSES	\$ (41,016)

Notes:

With the generosity of our supporters Redwings was able to continue work on its irrigation project, spending \$52,430 to improve our pastures to provide the horses with green grass over a longer period of time.

Non-cash donations in the amount of \$14,830 were received in 2009-2010.

Through the services of Fundraising Strategies, Inc. (FRS) Redwings is able to reach individuals throughout the nation who are concerned about the plight of neglected and abused horses and help us in our mission. The financial statement includes income and expenses related to FRS.

This represents a condensed accounting of activities of Horsepower Sanctuaries, Inc. DBA Redwings Horse Sanctuary. Redwings' 2009/10 Audited Financial Statement and 2009 Form 990 are available upon request. See Guidestar.org for online access to additional information.