



Rolling Dog Ranch
Animal Sanctuary

**A special place where disabled animals
enjoy life on a Montana ranch.**



Co-founders Steve Smith and Alayne Marker with Bailey, one of the disabled Dachshunds at the ranch.

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Our Mission

To rescue and shelter disabled animals, and to show how disabled animals can have a wonderful quality of life if they're only given a chance.



Blind Callie grooming blind Briggs. Callie was successfully treated for a brain tumor last year.

Being blind doesn't stop beautiful Cinder from doing anything a sighted cat can do.



Steve bringing blind Lena and blind Nikki in from pasture.

Annual Report 2009

2009 was a year of major medical cases at the ranch. Three of our new arrivals were among those needing significant veterinary care.

Our biggest heartbreak during the year was one of them. A little blind dog from Montana named Teddy was nearly starved to death before coming to us in July. He turned out to have serious complications from untreated chronic diabetes. Sadly, despite surgeries and weeks of hospitalization with the best possible veterinary care, we lost Teddy a few months later.

We had much better news with Gabe, a blind-and-deaf dog who came from California. He arrived with a nasal tumor that prevented him from breathing through his nose or being able to smell anything. He required surgery at Washington State University's veterinary teaching hospital and then three weeks of follow-up radiation therapy.

A Very Happy Ending

But the highlight of the year was the medical outcome on the third new arrival, a blind Beagle from Georgia named Charlie. We noticed when taking his photos that Charlie seemed to react to the camera flash, which led us to wonder if he could see behind his thick cataracts. We had diagnostic tests done and found that his retinas were indeed working. Our veterinary ophthalmologist was then able to restore his vision with cataract surgery, and now Charlie can see! We adopted Charlie out to a loving new family in Olympia, Washington, just before Christmas. It just doesn't get better than that!

More Cancer Cases

Two of our current residents, blind Callie and blind Helen, developed cancer during the year. Like Gabe, Callie also had three weeks of radiation therapy at WSU that successfully treated her brain tumor. Helen continues to undergo chemotherapy that is holding her cancer at bay.

Not to be outdone by the dogs, one of our blind horses, Rosie the mare, required emergency colic surgery and weeks of follow-up care.

As we write this in January 2010, we feel blessed that all three cancer patients – Gabe, Callie and Helen – are all doing well, as is Rosie!

Comings and Goings

We brought in six disabled animals during the year. Two came from California, two from Montana, and one each from Idaho and Georgia. All except one was blind. We adopted out five animals in 2009, our lowest number ever – perhaps because the economic climate may have reduced interest in adopting.

In total, we cared for about sixty disabled animals on average during the year, about two-thirds of whom were blind. Each and every one of them enjoys their life on the ranch.



Our deaf Beagle Stuart, on the right, was one of our happy adoptions during the year. Dan and Cheryl W. from Whitefish, Montana, adopted Stuart as a companion for their Beagle Daisy.



We lost blind Teddy a few months after he came to the ranch, very sick from chronic, untreated diabetes. He collapsed in our arms early on a Sunday morning from a heart attack. We didn't have him long, but he died knowing he was loved.



We were thrilled to give Charlie, once blind, the gift of sight. Here he is seeing Alayne for the very first time after coming back from eye surgery.

Financial Highlights

Given the economic recession, we started 2009 very concerned about the impact on donations and we had prepared a budget to cope with lower revenues. We ended the year with revenues down 7.5% compared to 2008, but we managed to reduce our expenses by 28%.

The single biggest cost savings came from not replacing our one remaining full-time employee when she left in March because of her husband's relocation. Although that added significantly to our own workload, we believed it was the prudent thing to do financially until we had more clarity on how the economy was going to affect nonprofits like ourselves.

We took other steps to lower costs, too, including taking in fewer animals; aggressively reducing energy consumption; and cutting printing and postage costs by combining our spring and summer print newsletters. Those are just a few examples.

Of course, one area we did not compromise on was animal care. Although we overshot our veterinary budget because of the multiple cancer cases, the disabled animals at the ranch will always have their medical needs met – no matter what.

In the end, since we were able to reduce expenses more than donations dropped, we were fortunate to still set aside some money for contingencies.

With projections for continued high unemployment and other signs of economic distress, we remain concerned about the future. As a result, we're continuing to conservatively manage the sanctuary's finances and operations, and we are looking for new ways to reduce expenses long term.

Recognition for Disabled Animals

We were delighted to receive significant recognition in 2009 for our disabled animals. We won the Henry Bergh Award from the ASPCA in New York for our work at the sanctuary. The ASPCA flew Alayne back to New York in October to receive the award at their 2009 Humane Awards special event.

World-renowned animal expert Jack Hanna brought his TV crew out to the ranch to tape a story on our animals for his TV show "Into The Wild." They did a delightful piece that aired in November.

Also during the year we did amazingly well in a nationwide online contest called the Shelter Challenge. Thousands of animal shelters and rescue groups participated. In the first round in the spring, we came in third and won \$3,000. In the second round in the fall, with voting ending in December, we came in first and won the \$20,000 Grand Prize. That was a fabulous Christmas present for the animals at the ranch!

A Special Thank You

None of these animals would be here without your gifts. It's only because of your generous support that we can provide this special place for these very special animals. Whether we end up with broken hearts, like for little Teddy, or with immense joy, like giving blind Charlie the gift of sight, we will always do everything we can for them. And that's because you make it possible for us to do that.

Thank you for your kindness and your compassion!

Alayne Marker and Steve Smith, Co-founders

How Much Did We Spend On...?

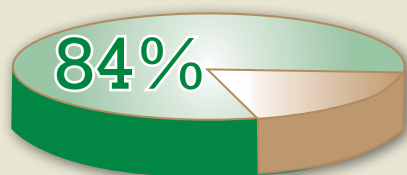
Veterinary care:	\$45,411
Animal feed:	\$25,744
Animal supplies:	\$22,145

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Efficiency Expense Ratio Program vs. Admin/Outreach

Total Program Expense	\$341,291
Total Admin/Outreach Expense	\$65,245
Total Annual Expenses	\$406,536

Percent of Total Annual Expenses Devoted to Programs:



Percent of Total Annual Expenses Devoted to Programs: 84%

Percent of Total Annual Expenses Devoted to Admin/Outreach: 16% (includes capital expenditures)

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Our Board Of Directors

- Steve Smith
- Alayne Marker
- Virginia Marker

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Our Privacy Policy

We never share, sell or exchange our donor information with anyone. Some nonprofits sell their mailing lists, but we don't.

Summary Financial Information

January – December 2009

1. Statement of Financial Activities

Revenues

Contributions	\$829,988
Stock Gifts	\$56,015
Net Other Income	\$6,350

Total Revenues **\$892,353**

Expenses

Program	\$341,291
Administrative/Outreach	\$65,245

Total Expenses **\$406,536**

2. Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	\$521,953
Savings & Investments	\$535,813
Prepaid Expenses	\$12,572
Inventory	\$3,853
Interest Receivable	\$684

Total Current Assets **\$1,074,875**

Fixed Assets

Machinery & Equipment	\$140,367
Vehicles	\$117,437
Animal Buildings	\$744,566
Welcome Center	\$20,088
Volunteer Cottage	\$47,741
Accumulated Depreciation	-\$245,138
Net Fixed Assets	\$825,061

Total Assets **\$1,899,936**

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	\$7,100
Long Term Liabilities	\$0

Total Liabilities **\$7,100**

Net Assets

Unrestricted	
Operating	\$1,067,776
Fixed Assets	\$825,061

Total Net Assets **\$1,892,837**

Total Liabilities & Net Assets **\$1,899,937**