UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 1, 2018

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-34382 (Commission File Number) 31-1364046 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

39 East Canal Street, Nelsonville, Ohio 45764 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (740) 753-1951

<u>Not Applicable</u> (Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):
☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
□ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).
Emerging growth company
If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On March 1, 2018, the board of directors of Rocky Brands, Inc. (the "Company") authorized a new share repurchase program of up to \$7,500,000 of the Company's common stock (the "Repurchase Program"). Repurchases under the Company's new program will be made in open market or privately negotiated transactions in compliance with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 10b-18, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements, and other relevant factors. The Repurchase Program is expected to be completed over the next 12 months.

On March 5, 2018, the Company issued a press release announcing the authorization of the Repurchase Program, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99 and incorporated herein by reference.

The information contained or incorporated by reference in this Form 8-K contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby. Those statements include, but may not be limited to, all statements regarding intent, beliefs, expectations, projections, forecasts, and plans of the Company and its management. These forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, the various risks inherent in the Company's business as set forth in periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (filed March 9, 2017) and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 2017 (filed May 5, 2017), June 30, 2017 (filed August 9, 2017) and September 30, 2017 (filed November 7, 2017). One or more of these factors have affected historical results, and could in the future affect the Company's businesses and financial results in future periods and could cause actual results to differ materially from plans and projections. Therefore, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this press release will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements included herein, the Company, or any other person should not regard the inclusion of such information as a representation that the objectives and plans of the Company will be achieved. All forward-looking statements made in this press release are based on information presently available to the management of the Company. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99 Press Release, dated March 5, 2018 entitled "Rocky Brands, Inc. Announces New Share Repurchase Program".

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 5, 2018

Rocky Brands, Inc.

/s/ Tom Robertson Tom Robertson Chief Financial Officer



ROCKY BRANDS ANNOUNCES NEW SHARE REPURCHASE PROGRAM

NELSONVILLE, Ohio, March 5, 2018 – Rocky Brands, Inc. (Nasdaq: RCKY) today announced that its board of directors has approved a new share repurchase program of up to \$7,500,000 of the Company's outstanding common stock, no par value per share. This repurchase program replaces the previous repurchase program authorized by the board of directors that expired on March 1, 2018.

Repurchases under the Company's new program will be made in open market or privately negotiated transactions in compliance with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 10b-18, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements, and other relevant factors. This share repurchase plan does not obligate the Company to acquire any particular amount of common stock, and it may be suspended at any time at the Company's discretion.

About Rocky Brands, Inc.

Rocky Brands, Inc. is a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of premium quality footwear and apparel marketed under a portfolio of well recognized brand names including Rocky®, Georgia Boot®, Durango®, Lehigh®, and the licensed brand Michelin®.

Safe Harbor Language

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby. Those statements include, but may not be limited to, all statements regarding intent, beliefs, expectations, projections, forecasts, and plans of the Company and its management. These forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, the various risks inherent in the Company's business as set forth in periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (filed March 9, 2017) and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 2017 (filed May 5, 2017), June 30, 2017 (filed August 9, 2017) and September 30, 2017 (filed November 7, 2017). One or more of these factors have affected historical results, and could in the future affect the Company's businesses and financial results in future periods and could cause actual results to differ materially from plans and projections. Therefore, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this press release will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements included herein, the Company, or any other person should not regard the inclusion of such information as a representation that the objectives and plans of the Company will be achieved. All forward-looking statements made in this press release are based on information presently available to the management of the Company. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

Company Contact: Tom Robertson

Chief Financial Officer

(740) 753-1951

Investor Relations: Brendon Frey

ICR. Inc.

(203) 682-8200