## 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) $\qquad$ July 27, 2009

## ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

| (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ohio | 0-21026 | 31-1364046 |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (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
Not Applicable
(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 registrantunder any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):
$\square$ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
$\square$ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
$\square$ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
$\square$ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

## Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On July 27, 2009, Rocky Brands, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release entitled "Rocky Brands, Inc. Announces Second Quarter Fiscal 2009 Results" regarding its consolidated financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2009. A copy of the Company's press release is furnished as Exhibit 99 to this Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Form 8-K and accompanying press release is being furnished under Item 2.02 and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of such section, nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

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 Exchange Act, 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 and include statements in the accompanying press release regarding improved profitability (paragraph 3). 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, 2008 (filed March 3, 2009), and the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2009 (filed May 4, 2009 ). 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 contained or incorporated by reference in this Form 8 - K will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference 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 contained or incorporated by reference in this Form $8-\mathrm{K}$ 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 No. Description
99* Press Release, dated July 27, 2009, entitled "Rocky Brands, Inc. Announces Second Quarter Fiscal 2009 Results."

* Such press release is being "furnished" (not filed) under Item 2.02 of this Current Report on Form 8-K.


## 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.

## Rocky Brands, Inc.

Date: July 27, 2009
By: /s/ James E. McDonald
James E. McDonald, Executive Vice
President and Chief Financial Officer

## ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

| Company Contact: | Jim McDonald <br> Chief Financial Officer <br> (740) 753-1951 |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| Investor Relations: | ICR, Inc. <br> Brendon Frey/Chad Jacobs <br> $(203) 682-8200$ |

## ROCKY BRANDS, INC. ANNOUNCES SECOND QUARTER FISCAL 2009 RESULTS

NELSONVILLE, Ohio, July 27, 2009 - Rocky Brands, Inc. (Nasdaq: RCKY) today announced financial results for its second quarter ended June 30 , 2009.
For the second quarter of 2009 , net sales decreased to $\$ 51.2$ million versus net sales of $\$ 60.5$ million in the second quarter of 2008 . The Company reported a net loss of $\$ 1.4$ million, or $(\$ 0.25)$ per diluted share versus net income of $\$ 0.7$ million, or $\$ 0.13$ per diluted share a year ago.

Mike Brooks, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "Our operating performance continued to be affected by the difficult retail environment during the second quarter. Sales were down as retailers remained cautious with inventory commitments as the result of decreases in consumer spending and store traffic. Our gross margin was also negatively impacted due to higher closeout sales versus a year ago combined with the deleveraging of our manufacturing costs from lower sales volumes. Importantly, our operating expenses are down over $13 \%$, or nearly $\$ 6$ million year-to-date and we move forward a much leaner, more efficient organization. Looking ahead, the combination of lower SG\&A levels, our current order book, and easier comparisons, has us optimistic that we can deliver improved profitability year-over-year during the second half of 2009."

## Second Quarter Review

Net sales for the second quarter decreased to $\$ 51.2$ million compared to $\$ 60.5$ million a year ago. Wholesale sales for the second quarter were $\$ 37.9$ million compared to $\$ 42.5$ million for the same period in 2008. The decline in wholesale sales was primarily attributable to lower than expected orders as many accounts are choosing to operate with leaner inventory levels during this challenging economy. Retail sales for the second quarter were $\$ 12.3$ million compared to $\$ 16.2$ million for the same period last year. Retail sales were down year-over-year as a result of the ongoing transition to more internet driven transactions and the decision to remove a portion of our Lehigh mobile stores from operation to help lower costs as discussed below. Military segment sales for the second quarter were $\$ 0.9$ million versus $\$ 1.8$ million for the same period in 2008.

Gross margin in the second quarter of 2009 was $\$ 17.7$ million, or $34.6 \%$ of sales compared to $\$ 24.4$ million, or $40.3 \%$ for the same period last year. The decrease in gross margin as a percentage of sales was primarily attributable to higher closeout sales, lower retail sales, which carry a higher gross margin, and increased manufacturing costs versus a year ago.

Selling, general and administrative (SG\&A) expenses decreased $\$ 2.8$ million or $13.4 \%$ to $\$ 18.1$ million, or $35.4 \%$ of sales for the second quarter of 2009 compared to $\$ 20.9$ million, or $34.5 \%$ of sales, a year ago. The decrease in SG\&A expenses was primarily the result of a reduction in salaries \& benefits, freight, sales commissions and Lehigh mobile store expenses.

Loss from operations was $\$ 0.4$ million for the period compared to income from operations of $\$ 3.5$ million in the prior year.

Interest expense decreased $\$ 0.5$ million or $20.8 \%$ to $\$ 1.9$ million for the second quarter of 2009 versus $\$ 2.4$ million for the same period last year. The decrease is the result of a reduction in average borrowings combined with lower interest rates compared to the same period last year.

The Company's funded debt decreased $\$ 13.9$ million, or $13.7 \%$ to $\$ 87.5$ million at June 30, 2009 versus $\$ 101.4$ million at June 30, 2008.
Inventory decreased $\$ 6.2$ million, or $7.3 \%$, to $\$ 79.3$ million at June 30,2009 compared with $\$ 85.5$ million on the same date a year ago.

## Conference Call Information

The Company's conference call to review second quarter fiscal 2009 results will be broadcast live over the internet today, Monday, July 27, 2009 at 4:30 pm Eastern Time. The broadcast will be hosted at www.rockybrands.com.

## 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 Outdoor Gear ${ }^{\circledR}$, Georgia Boot ${ }^{\circledR}$, Durango ${ }^{\circledR}$, Lehigh ${ }^{\circledR}$, and the licensed brands Dickies ${ }^{\circledR}$, Michelin ${ }^{\circledR}$ and Mossy Oak ${ }^{\circledR}$.

## Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

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, and include statements in this press release regarding improved profitability (paragraph 3). 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, 2008 (filed March 3, 2009) and the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2009 (filed May 4, 2009). 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.

|  | Rocky Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries <br> Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |

Rocky Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

 (Unaudited)

