In this issue…

Quarterly Feature 1
Goals 2
Team Leader’s Corner 2
Call Review 2
Upcoming Events 2
Operations Update 3
Training Update 3

Quarterly Feature

On March 13th 2014 the Black Hills Area Chapter of the American Red Cross honored 8 local heroes at their Breakfast of Champions; one of those heroes was our very own Casey Tippmann. In May of 2012, after finishing dinner with a friend at a local restaurant, Casey noticed smoke coming from a near-by neighborhood and decided to drive through on his way home to make sure that everything was okay. When he arrived in the area he found a house with smoke and fire showing from the back side of the structure. Casey pounded on the door to make sure that no one was still inside; he was able to rouse an elderly woman from her sleep and help her exit the house before the fire entered the rear of the structure. Casey’s quick thinking and activation of the fire department’s response quite probably saved this woman’s life. Casey was awarded the American Red Cross Hero Medal. Casey was also honored by the Rapid City Fire Department and the City Council later that year for his bravery. Casey has been a member of our team for 10 years and is also a U.S. Army Veteran. We are very proud to call him a member of our team and a dear friend. Congratulations on your award Casey, you deserve it!
Team Goals

The following goals have been set for 2014:

- Complete a replacement plan for Rescue 1
- 100% compliance on check sheets
- Maintain 50% of new recruits
- Establish a building replacement/addition plan
- Create working agreements with several agencies for mutual responses

Team Leader’s Corner

Our team is excited to introduce our new officers for 2014. Long-time Team Leader, Rick Lehmann, stepped down this year, making way for new leaders to emerge. We would like to thank Rick for serving the ever-important role for the majority of his 30-year career with the team. He is still very active with the team and continues to mentor the new leadership. He has given us a great foundation to continue to build upon. That being said, we would like to welcome the officers:

Team Leader - Tammy Stadel
Assistant Team Leader, Operations - Andrew Tate
Assistant Team Leader, Administration - Andrew Randazzo
Maintenance Officer - Casey Tippmann
Training Officer - Jason Dannenbring
Secretary - Kathie Brusseau
Treasurer - Heather Blair

This year, we have many new goals. We have been busy cleaning up the station: building new lockers to store gear, painting, and installing a washer and dryer so we can clean our gear. We are looking forward to another busy and safe year!

~Tammy Stadel
Team Leader

Call Review

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Events and Training

April
1st – Business Meeting
8th – Ice Rescue Practical
15th – Electrical Safety
22nd – Air Bag Lift Techniques
26th – Wilderness First Aid
29th – Wilderness First Aid

May
6th – Business Meeting
13th – Search Management
20th – Navigation (Maps)
27th – Navigation (GPS)

June
3rd – Business Meeting
10th – Forklift Certification
17th – Mass Casualty and Triage
21st – Tri-Annual Airport Exercise
24th – Hybrid Vehicle Training
Operations Update

The first three months have kept us busy with calls, training, and station improvements. We have wrapped up the majority of our new recruit training for the year; there are just a few more classes to get through. We just finished up the Emergency Rescue Technician course, which marks the last major course for new recruits. I am quite pleased that all of our trainees have passed which speaks greatly about their, and the instructor's, dedication to the team. I look forward to working and training with them in the future.

Remember, we are currently on hold for check sheets. We have switched the schedule around and the next check sheet cycle will be navigation between May 1st and August 31st. Now would be a good time to go through extrication and vertical sheets to raise your comfort level without the pressure and deadline.

~Andy Tate
Assistant Team Leader - Operations

Training Update:

We started this year running with our Annual Winter Camp-out. Every year we take all of our winter rescue equipment out and conduct several training scenarios to get our trainees more comfortable with the equipment, and also to improve the skills of our team members. This year we went to Roubaix Lake and spent three days training in some fairly deep snow. Everyone that attended gained some very valuable training, and we also got a chance to practice using some of our newer equipment that we had not gotten a chance to use yet.

Looking forward to the next quarter we are going to focus on navigation, ice rescue and also mass casualty operations. We look forward to incorporating our new trainees and also our members into training that will challenge them and get them more involved with the team.

~Jason Dannenbring
Training Officer