



# PCSAR Rescue Reporter

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### Quarterly Feature - Member Profile

Axel, who has been with the team for a couple years, came to us from Texas via SDSMT. Prior to his studies at the School of Mines, Axel was in Lubbock, Texas with Texas A&M where, as a part of his studies, he worked at the AgriLife Research & Extension Center. Research he was working on included a salt tolerant strain of cotton that would survive the infiltration of salt caused by rising sea waters and strains of cotton that would grow a particular color, thus not needing to be dyed or lose color with washing. Axel learned of SDSMT from a fellow



student, researched the school and decided to make the switch. He is working on degrees in both Chemical Engineering and Wind Engineering. One of the clubs Axel is involved with at SDSMT is the ChemE Car Team, for which he is a Co-Captain. Competing on a national level, this year in Tucson, Arizona, the ChemE Car must start, run and stop on a chemical reaction only. At our local Pumpkin Festival, another club Axel is a member of was part of a pumpkin chuckin' team that built a trebuchet to fling those favorite gourds of Halloween across the green of Memorial Park. While his team did not win, they gave a great showing and he was pleased they had not come in last. One last tidbit about Axel. His nickname was bestowed upon him by a German teacher and stuck.

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Selfie with a Texas alligator near home in Brazos Bend State Park



Second trebuchet from the left having just chucked a pumpkin

### Annual Open House

Our annual Open House was held Saturday, September 19. While numbers held steady, donations were down a bit. Costs for the event, including all food, were covered entirely by generous donations from individuals as well as local businesses. For a class project, we provided the 8<sup>th</sup> grade FACS class at Southwest Middle School with a recipe and all ingredients for the taverns that were served. Some of the students were able to attend the Open House and told us cooking such a large quantity was a really good experience.

New this year was a scavenger hunt that was a hit with the kids. Officers from Oglala Sioux Tribe Highway Safety and Pennington County Sheriff's Office joined us for the day. After watching the rollover simulator on display from the Oglala Sioux Tribe, one little boy was overheard to say he was never ever going to not wear his seatbelt. All of us that respond to traffic accidents much appreciate the lesson learned.



Fundraiser at Robbinsdale Lanes. The staff were great and we had lots of laughs. We'll be back!



Rescue of a visitor to BNP after he slipped off the trail and became stranded on a ledge.

**Events and Training**

**Check Sheet:** Extrication

**October**

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting  
Trench classroom
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Trench Practical
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Search Exercise
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Search Management

**November**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Business Meeting  
Driving Simulator
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Recruitment Night
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Shoring Classroom
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Shoring Practical

**December**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Business Meeting

Enjoy the rest of the year off and see you next year!

**Team Goals**

The following goals have been set for 2015:

- Complete a replacement plan for Rescue 1
- 25% increase in attendance by general membership
- Develop a Leadership Taskbook
- Identify equipment, age, cost, usage, and service life fore creation of replacement plan

**Training Update**

Welcome to this quarters recap of Search and Rescue training.

July was our month to get out and do some outdoor training. We do a navigation training every year to remind our team how to use a compass and a GPS receiver.

During most of our Vertical rescues there is not an anchor in the perfect location. So, we learn other ways to make, and set up anchors so that we can perform the rescue in a safe and quick way. This is an advanced anchor class.

During some of the rescues the large stokes basket is not going to work in the area that we need to get the patient from. In these situations we use the Sked. We practice packaging a patient and rigging it for a Helicopter lift.

August is a busy month in the Black Hills so we take a month of training off. But we got plenty of opportunity for OJT because we had a busy month of calls.

September was a month of prepping for the Open House, but we still were able to do an electrical safety class and how to set up the light towers and repeater training.

Finished the month up with an Extrication check sheet night for team members to go through stations and show how to use the equipment off of the extrication rescue truck.



JD more tied up than usual in training

~ Jason "JD" Dannenbring  
Training Officer

**Team Leader's Corner**

The team has had a busy year - we are significantly up on our call volume and have had several major emergency calls, including a trench rescue and several searches.

This summer, Loki got certified as a wilderness search dog - we are so excited to add a certified search dog to our toolbox. A week after he passed his test, Loki led team members and law enforcement to the location of an Alzheimer's patient who walked away from his home. Loki was just doing his job but the man's family was thrilled to be reunited.

We sent some of our equipment to support wildfire efforts in the northwest - the devastation and impact from the fires have impacted so many areas.

We want to thank everyone for attending our open house and for their continued support during the year. We can't do what we do without the community support.

~Tammy Stadel  
Team Leader

### Operations Update

We have had a great year so far and are excited to close it out. We will continue refining our skills with training and will also keep our equipment running smoothly. As summer draws to a close, we have begun to prepare our winter equipment for the upcoming season. Our Snowcats and tracked vehicles will soon be needed to get around, and we will be ready!

Thanks to all the community members who joined us for our Open House! We enjoy spending time with you all in a relaxed, non-emergency setting. Thanks again, and be safe during the winter and Holiday season!

~ Andrew Randazzo  
Assistant Team Leader - Operations



Multi-Agency search in Badlands National Park



Extrication of a stacked truck and car



Rescue of a hiker in distress in the Black Elk Wilderness below the cloud shrouded Elkhorn Mountain.



Saying good-bye

Call Review			
Type	Jul - Sep	Cancelled	YTD
Cancelled	12	-	40
Extrication	2	8	6
Fire	4		14
Rescue	2	4	5
Search	6		7
Vertical	2		5
Water	1		3
Other	1		3
Total	30		83

#### RESCUE RACK



"You took the Sparky dog costume to Party Time for repair and the cascade system to Station 1 for filling, right?"