PCSAR Rescue Reporter

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Information Booth

Rapid City Regional Hospital hosted their first annual Wellness Fair for its employees this February. Our team was invited to participate as an organization that serves the community. While we sit information booths throughout the year, none have compared with the attendee interaction of this event. Response to our booth was phenomenal, requiring two trips to the barn for more handouts!

Our booth with photo poster ready for the crush of people that arrived upon the fair opening

Winter Campout

Our not so wintry winter campout took us to a new location at Box Elder Campground that provided many trails for small UTVs versus the roads needed for the snowcats.

On the trail

Team Member Appreciation

The Rapid City Rush Hockey Team donated two tickets to our team! The names of all members of the team that responded to calls during the first quarter were placed in a bowl and one of our new trainees did the honor of drawing the lucky winner. Congratulations to Rick for winning the tickets and hope you enjoy the game!

Finding geocaches for GPSr practice

Black Hills Sport Show
Joint booth with Sheriff’s Office

Experimenting with a rocket stove
Events and Training

Check Sheets
April – Vertical
May-June – Navigation

April
5th – Business Meeting
9th – Vertical Practical
12th – ERT Review
19th – ERT Exam
26th – EVOC Classroom
28th – Fundraiser: Blaze Pizza

May
3rd – Business Meeting
10th – EVOC Practical
17th – Map & Compass
24th – Helo Operations
31st – Navigation Checksheets

June
7th – Business Meeting
14th – Hybrid Cars
21st – Extrication Practical
25th – Vertical Practical
28th – SAR Picnic

Team Goals
The following goals have been set for 2016:

• Complete the replacement plan for vehicles, including to have a new Rescue 1 by 2017
• 100% compliance with checksheet completion
• Maintain a minimum of 25 trained and active members
• Have at least six members attend training outside the department, including the Homeland Security Conference and Instructor Training

Training Update

We have had a busy start to the training year!!! The new trainees have put in hundreds of hours getting ready to take the Emergency Rescue Technician test. They have learned how to set up ropes for vertical and scree rescues. They also learned the ABC’s of how to cut vehicles from around a trapped person.

The “winter campout” was in the 60’s for temperatures. This gave us a unique opportunity to have a small scale search and evacuation of an injured person.

Team members were given the coordinate of the Reporting Party. They used the coordinate to see what area the person was in using a map, then the best trails on the map to get there. They used GPS receivers once they got into the area to find the person. Once they located the injured person they had to figure out what equipment would be needed to get the person out, and the best way to get the equipment there. They then looked back to the map and the GPS receivers to find the best path to get the person out.

These skills are used in many of our rescues so the ability to run scenarios like this is a great way to improve SAR’s response abilities.

Team Goals

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Fundraiser: Blaze Pizza

Blaze Pizza will be sponsoring a fundraiser for PCSAR Thursday, April 28th. Keep an eye out for fliers and have dinner for a cause!
**Operations Update**

As we head into spring, we are playing the spring - winter balance game that South Dakotans are all familiar with. We are preparing our equipment and Team Members for all things summer, while continuing our readiness for winter storms.

The closer we get to summer, the more activity there will be outside. Please stay safe this summer and prepare properly for your activities. We hope to meet you at the numerous events we have scheduled this summer, not at a rescue scene.

Get outside and have some fun this summer!

~ Andrew Randazzo  
Assistant Team Leader - Operations

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**Team Leader’s Corner**

The weather has posed several challenges for us this year. We have started off the year with a vertical rescue, structure fires, and vehicle accidents. We are still prepared for the chances of a winter storm, but we’ve certainly had more summer-like rescues thus far. Team members are continuing to train for various types of emergencies and we will have several new team members voted on throughout this quarter.

~ Tammy Stadel  
Team Leader
**FUNSAR & ERT Training**

Fundamentals of Search and Rescue and Emergency Rescue Technician certification form the core of our training program. Trainees attended six all-day classes during January, February and March to learn the basic skills they will need to respond to calls for rescue and to prepare for an exam administered by the State Fire Marshal.

The last day of ERT training was spent at the junkyard of Aggressive Auto for hands-on experience in cutting apart vehicles in different positions.

**JD instructing in knot tying**

**Team Members helped out with training**

**Handling a stokes basket while hanging on a rope**

**Learning the many layers of patient packaging**

**Jeff instructing how to rig the stokes basket for scree**

**Trainees cutting on their first car!**

**Basics of stabilization with chocks**

**Using a ram to roll the dashboard away from the passenger seats**

**Editor: Ellen, Assistant Team Leader - Administration**