



PCSAR Rescue Reporter

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The large rechargeable flashlights have arrived! One has been mounted on the center console of Rescue 1, the extrication truck. Arrival of harnesses and flashlights!

Donation – Black Hills Corporation

Black Hills Corporation donated \$2000 to PCSAR for the purchase of operations gear. The funds helped the team purchase climbing harnesses, headlamps and two sizes of rechargeable flashlights for the trucks; small hand held and large lantern.



Recruitment

Recruitment is underway for the 2018 training cycle. To kick it off, two of our team members JD, team Training Officer, and Tiana, dog handler, sat down with Adam King at KOTA for an interview during the Noon News.



Elections for 2018

Jeff in Maintenance and Ellen in Assistant Team Leader, Administration did not run for reelection as they pursue other interests.

Assistant Team Leader, Admin: James
Treasurer: Amy
Maintenance: Ryan

Mid-term positions are held by:
Team Leader: Tammy
Assistant Team Leader, Ops: Rick
Training: JD
Secretary: Kathie



The Legion Lake Fire that burned through parts of Custer State Park, Wind Cave National Park and private land was under the command of the Rocky Mountain Type 3 Incident Management Blue Team for several days. PCSAR supported this command with equipment including our command trailer with radio and map production capabilities.

Events and Training

Check Sheets

Jan-Apr – Vertical

January

- 2nd – Business Meeting
- 9th – Rappelling
- 16th – Evidence Awareness
- 23rd – Ice Rescue
- 30th – Winter Camp Prep

February

- 3rd-4th – Winter Campout
- 6th – Business Meeting
- 13th – Recruitment Night
- 20th – Weather Spotter
- 27th – Vertical Check Sheets

March

- 6th – Business Meeting
- 13th – New Recruit Intro
- 20th – Mass Casualty
- 27th – *no training*

Team Goals

The following goals have been set for 2018:

- Develop levels of physical fitness to which team members can strive
- 100% compliance with check sheet 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

Team Leader’s Corner

The end of year is always busy for our team. We make several last minute purchases and often receive a few grants at the end of the year. Colder weather and snow means getting snow cats and winter equipment operational and moving out our summer rescue equipment. With all the moving pieces and parts, we also make time to spend with our families and thank them for letting our team members be part of such a busy and wonderful organization.

This year, our big purchases - due in part to wildland fire reimbursement funds - included a new UTV to replace our 2008 Polaris Ranger. We purchased a 2018 Yamaha Mule and will put it in service in January 2018. We are also replacing our large generator that supports the team during large events, including fires and searches. The "new" generator is a used generator that has less than 100 hours on it; it will be a welcome replacement as our current generator is no longer serviceable.

We will also welcome the new Rescue 2 in January 2018. We were hoping to have it in service this year however, due to the storms in Florida, the manufacturing of the box was delayed.

Wrapping everything up, our team ran around 70 calls and supported multiple counties this year, including the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Indian Reservations, Custer County, Lawrence County, and Meade County. We responded to calls for service and support as far north as Libby, Montana and assisted with the third largest fire in South Dakota history at Custer State Park.

Our team continues to grow and change and we are looking forward to starting 2018 with new members to train and new equipment to put in service.

Happy New Year!

~Tammy Stadel
Team Leader

Call Review			
	Oct - Dec	Cancelled	YTD
Cancelled	7		29
Extrication	3	6	11
Fire	2		10
Rescue			4
Search			12
Vertical			1
Water			1
Other	3	1	7
Total			75

Several extrications have kept the team busy and trainees testing their new skills.



Radar Hill Rd - train vs truck



Sheridan Lake Rd - truck vs car



I-90 - van vs tour bus

Training Update

Greetings from the training desk:

The 2017 year has passed and we are entering 2018. Looking back at the past year we had a lot of great trainings. We reviewed how to shore a building as well as how to shore a trench. The team members have gone through their yearly check sheets, Vertical, Map & Compass/GPS Receiver, and Extrication.

These 3 check sheets are the skills that keep us safe and efficient. Vertical check sheets go over all the knots and rope systems we use in a Vertical or slope rescue. It is important to know how to quickly and safely set them up for patient and team safety.

Map & compass and GPS Receiver is another skill that is so important for the team. Knowing how to use a map and compass in the hills gives you the ability to double check if you are going in the right direction. Cloud cover, tree cover and the blizzards we have here can mess with our loved GPS receivers and sometimes you need a compass to point you in the right direction. The GPS receiver helps us get where we need to go, but it also tracks and gives us a time stamp of where our team was and when they were in an area during a search. This is very important and useful data to help us know how well an area was covered and if we need to put more people to look in the area or expand the search area using the GPS receiver data. The team knowing how to set up and use the GPS receivers makes search planning better.

And finally, the Extrication check sheets. Knowing where to find and how to use the equipment on the rescue truck makes the team run like a well-oiled machine on an extrication. The check sheet not only helps up review the equipment, it is another way to keep the equipment running at its best.

I hope that this letter finds you all heathy and ready for a new year of adventure in the great outdoors we have in your back yard.

~ Jason "JD" Dannenbring
Training Officer

New Team Members

Several trainees completed their training and were voted onto the team. Zach, Austin, David, Tom, Tiana. Congratulations!



Annual Holiday Party

The team’s holiday party was held in the Emergency Operations Center and catered by the always delicious Job Corp.

Congratulations to this year’s winners!



Trainee of the Year - Tiana



Team Member of the Year - Shawn



Officer of the Year - Rick

Operations Update

After a slow summer the winter weather has certainly stepped up. Slick roads and drivers that are not paying attention have certainly been the trend late this year.

The new truck (2SR-1) has been working out well. It is certainly nice to be able to load a crew of five in one vehicle and all be briefed as to assignment on arrival.

We are also getting the rest of the gear sorted out and ready for anything that may happen in the snow. Snowcats are dusted off and fueled up. Tracks are mounted on other rescue equipment and we can let the snow fly for that much needed moisture.

The year ended with a bang with the fire in Custer State Park. We provided some equipment for the fire and assisted with evacuations notices.

*~ Rick Lehmann
Assistant Team Leader - Operations*



After dinner games at the annual holiday party brought lots of laughs with the white elephant gift pass and the holiday quiz. It is a wonderful time for our team to sit back and relax.

Classroom Light Fixture Upgrade

The team stayed late after a training in November to remove the fluorescent light fixtures from the classroom. The classroom remained usable with the placement of a single lightbulb and portable lights typically used on scenes placed in the corners of the room.

A couple weeks later the ceiling received a fresh coat of paint and new LED fixtures were installed. The new fixtures, while looking very similar to the old, provide a much better light.

