

All terrain vehicles need care in operating

By Bill Jones

EMS Coordinator

I just completed two weeks of training in medical air transportation. I spent a week flying with the University of California San Diego Life Flight Program, a few days with Valley Hospital Flight for Life Program in Las Vegas, and then a day with Dr. Bird in Idaho. The training will help improve my response on Search & Rescue Medevacs, and I will pass the information on to our EMTs.

Starting on Aug. 26, Cindy will start monthly EMS training. The training is primarily for Barrow EMTs but anyone is welcome to attend. Call Cindy for details.

Cindy is making up the training calendar for the North Slope villages. Anyone that would like to have EMS training in their village contact



Cindy to be put on the schedule.

There seems to be a lot of three-wheeler accidents, several have been serious. And I know of quite a few accidents in the villages.

Most all of the accidents have been caused by the drivers of the three-wheelers. Intoxicated drivers, driving too fast, and under-age kids seem to be the major causes of the accidents.

Having helped pick up the pieces several times after these accidents — and I do mean pieces — pieces of skin, pieces of flesh, pieces of bone . . . I had hoped that when I returned from my training the accidents would have stopped. They haven't.

Please, if you operate a three-wheeler don't drink and

drive (it's also against the law), keep the speed down, and drive carefully!

If you have children that operate the three-wheeler, please teach them the proper way to handle the three-wheelers. Watch out for cars and trucks. When a three-wheeler and car collide, the three-wheeler always loses. Most of the auto/three-wheeler accidents I know of, the fault was the driver of the three-wheeler.

If it sounds that I'm down on three-wheelers that's because I'm tired of picking up the pieces, and so is the rest of the ambulance crew.

When three-wheelers are operated properly they are safe, and fun transportation. When operated carelessly, they can be killers. So PLEASE be careful.