

**February 2003**

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**GREETINGS!** What weather!!! Your dedication is even more appreciated during these freezing nights when you drag yourselves out of your warm homes, often in the middle of the night to comfort those who need you in the E.D.

**CVTC HOLIDAY PARTY:** It was...and it was Grrr...eat.

**DV LEGISLATIVE AWARENESS DAY:** On February 4<sup>th</sup>, The New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence is sponsoring "Peace at Home, Then the World: Legislative Awareness Day 2003" in Albany. The focus for this year will be on an omnibus domestic violence bill and two main initiatives-correcting mandatory arrest problems and securing the financial appropriations for families affected by domestic violence. We will be meeting with many of our legislators and will seek their support with us. For those who are not joining us this year, we'll give you a full report next month on how it went. Think about coming next year- it's a great learning experience. Sexual Assault Legislative Day will be sometime in late April. More to come.

**COLUMBIA-- V-DAY!:** V-Day is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. Through V-Day campaigns, local volunteers and college students produce annual benefit performances of "The Vagina Monologues," by Eve Ensler to raise funds and public awareness within the community. CVTC is a beneficiary of this year's production at Barnard/Columbia's annual V-Day at Miller Theater. Apart from the fact that it's a great show, you all have an added reason to attend this event! The tickets are \$15 for students, \$25 for regular admission and \$50 for limited VIP seats. You can get tickets or further information by calling (212) 853-5454 or e-mailing [vdaycolumbia@aol.com](mailto:vdaycolumbia@aol.com).

**SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINER TRAINING:** The next training for SAFE Examiners will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, March 27<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at Jamaica Hospital in Queens. The clinical day for those without previous experience doing pelvic exams will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup>. This training program is open to physicians, physician assistants, registered nurses and midwives. Please ask your friends and colleagues and anyone interested in joining the SAFE Program at CVTC should contact Sally Clayton at (212) 523-4494. Information and registration forms are available on the Alliance's website- [www.nycagainstrape.org](http://www.nycagainstrape.org).

**ALLIANCE SEMINAR-"INJURY IDENTIFICATION & DOCUMENTATION":** The NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault is offering a great new seminar on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 9-5 at John Jay College. This seminar will cover dynamics of genital injuries and various forms of documentation of injuries, such as written descriptive, diagramming and photography. SAFE examiners, please attend if your schedule allows and Advocates, this would also be interesting to many of you. Registration forms and further information are available on the Alliance's website- [www.nycagainstrape.org](http://www.nycagainstrape.org).

**SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> SUPPORT GROUP:** A 10-week support group specifically offered to significant others, siblings, roommates, friends, and colleagues of victims of the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy will be offered at Roosevelt. However, if you know a spouse or immediate family member who may benefit from

this group, don't hesitate to tell them. The group will be facilitated by Monica Carr, CSW, who is a talented creative arts therapist and facilitated the last group in the spring. Attendance at the group is confidential and free of charge. Anyone interested in joining should contact Monica directly at 523-2868 for an interview.

**CALLING ALL BACK-UPS!:** The Advocate and SAFE coverage on the schedule has been great and is again this month (THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!) but if you haven't signed up, check the schedule on the website- there are still a few spots (mainly co-advocate) open. What we didn't get this month are back-ups for Rape Co-Advocate and Domestic Violence Advocate. If you're interested in trying this for the month, please call Sally ASAP.

**ADVOCATE NEWS:** Rape Crisis Advocate and Domestic Violence Advocate, **Susan Volchok** has had quite a year so far! Her short story, "How We Did It" is included in the newly published *The Best American Erotica, 2003*, edited by Susie Bright (Simon & Schuster). The NYC publication party will be held at Toys in Babeland on February 18<sup>th</sup> from 7-10 PM. In addition, Susan passed her qualifying exam to make 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan, Shotokan karate. WOW! Congratulations, Susan!

**STAFF NEWS:** Sally now has a new phone number that can be called directly from outside the hospital- It's (212) 523-4494. (Remember that we have to use area codes as of February 1<sup>st</sup>, even if you're calling within the same area code!) You can now leave a message on this number instead of going through the main number. Sally will be away from 2/6-2/18. If you have any schedule changes during this time, please call Erika at the Program Office (212) 523-4728.

**ADVOCATE AWARDS CEREMONY:** Our annual Advocate Awards Ceremony will be held on March 20, 2003. All rape crisis advocates who were trained in 2001 MUST be sure that they completed their addition 10 hours of training to be eligible for their NYS Certification. Domestic Violence Advocates who were trained in Fall 2001 will also be honored. This is a special night for all our advocates, SAFE examiners and our community. We hope to see you all there!

## Thought for the Month

**“Women constitute half of the world’s population, perform nearly two-thirds of its work hours, receive one-tenth of the world’s income and own less than one-hundredth of the world’s property.”**

**From United Nations Report of 1980.**

**How much have things changed in the last 23 years???**  
**Find out in next month’s Newsletter...**