

GOVERNOR WILLIAM DENNISON CAMP #1 NEWSLETTER

Department of Ohio, SUVCW

Nov 6, 2005

Announcement of Nominations and election of Officers for 2006

Attendance of all members of the Camp is requested at the November and December meetings for the purpose of nominating members for Camp officers in November and the Election of Officer in December. It has been proposed that the regular business meeting in December will consist of elections of officers and then adjournment to the Florentine Restaurant for dinner and conversation.

Report of the September, 2005 Camp Meeting

Order of business:

1. Opening of Camp:

Commander Kenney called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. according to the rituals and ceremonies of the S.U.V.C.W.

2. Roll call of Officers

Present Commander Gregory Kenney, Senior Vice-Commander Robert Davis, Secretary-Treasurer Timothy J. Strominger. Members: J. Davis, McMahon, Tallman & Ward

3. Reading and approval of the minutes

The July and August minutes were accepted with one correction. Bro. Tallman made a correction in the July 2005 newsletter that reported that he made the presentation to the AFROTC, when Bro. Ward made the presentation.

4. Treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

5. Does anyone know of a sick Brother or a Brother's Family in distress?

Bro. Nimmo is still sick. Sandy's Daughter Samantha is having surgery.

6. Reading and disposing of Orders, Communications and bills.

Bro. McMahon reported that he received an email from Michael Anderson in Wisconsin, about some artifacts from a G.A.R. post Dan Hill in Columbus, Ohio.

This includes a C.W. drum, Corp badge and some pictures. He is asking for help in locating the former owner.

7. Unfinished business.

a. Thanks to members who participated in the Labor Day parade in Canal Winchester.

b. Bro. Tilton reported that the regulations to wear a blue blazer applies only to Gettysburg. This does not mean a member cannot wear a blue blazer to other S.U.V.C.W. functions.

c. Bro. Strominger has certificates and raffle tickets.

8. New business.

- a. Former Brother Raymond A. Cole donated several books and videos to the Camp. There was a semi silent auction and the amount raised was \$15.00 which went into the Camp treasury.
 - b. There will be a celebration of the 125th anniversary of Sherman's "War is hell" speech September 23, 24 and 25 in Lancaster, Ohio.
 - c. Bro. R. Davis made a motion to reimburse Sandy \$30.00 for Labor Day expenses. Bro. Ward seconded. Motion passed.
 - d. The Abraham Lincoln award was given to the Banning Camp 207 from Mt. Vernon, Ohio because of the work they did in raising money to rededicate the monument to 4th O.V.I. at Gettysburg.
 - e. An Underground railroad program will be held at Sharon woods on or about November 5th.
 - f. Bro. R. Davis told the Camp that there will be a luncheon honoring Donald E. Darby, Commander in Chief. Raymond C. Nagel, Department Commander. Sandy Prosak Department President A.S.U.V.C.W at the Red Brick Tavern at 1700 U.S. Route 40 N.E. in Lafayette, Ohio on October 22nd at 12:45. Reservations to James Houston 955 Woodcreek Dr. Milford, Ohio 45150. Phone number is 513-248-2239. Reservations by October 5th. Members can car pool.
 - g. Proposed Camp Chase ceremony on October 29th at 1:00 p.m. The Hilltop Historical Association and S.C.V. wanted the Color Guard and Camp to participate in unveiling 30 new headstones. After much debate the Camp had several objections to participating in the Ceremony. 1. Color flags are not to be present. 2. The remembrance does not fit into the mission of S.U.V.C.W. 3. The headstones are for graves that are not at Camp Chase 4, There was some question as to the purpose of the placque and ceremony. Commander Kenney will invite David Reed to the next meeting to discuss the proposal.
9. Closing Ceremonies
 Commander Kenney adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Timothy J. Strominger.

Report of the October, 2005 Camp Meeting

Order of business:

1. Opening of Camp:

Commander Kenney called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. according to the rituals and ceremonies of the S.U.V.C.W.

2. Roll call of Officers

Present Commander Gregory Kenney, Junior Vice-Commander Keith Krinn, Secretary-Treasurer Timothy J. Strominger Members: Bro.'s McMahon, Inabnitt, J. Davis, Ward

3. Reading and approval of the minutes.

Tabled as the Minutes of the September 2005 meeting was not available.

4. Treasurer's report

Presented and accepted

5. Does anyone know of a sick Brother or a Brother's Family in distress?

Bro. Tallman is doing well.

6. Unfinished business.

a. Commander Kenney talked with David Reed about the Camp Chase ceremony on October 29. It is cancelled.

b. October 1st Operation Flag cleanup day at Methodist Cemetery. No one from Camp attended.

c. October 22nd luncheon at the Red Brick Tavern in Lafayette, Ohio. This is to honor Donald Darby, Commander in Chief, Raymond Nagel Department Commander and Sandy Prosak President A.S.U.V.C.W.

7. New business.

a. Dennison Camp 125 is about to disband because of lack of membership.

b. The Camp will try to have a joint picnic next year with the S.C.V.

c. There will a dedication ceremony for Phil Sheridan in Somerset, Ohio on October 29th

d. There will be a Colored Troops meeting and banquet November 4th to 6th in Dayton, Ohio at the Holiday Inn. This will include a Ceremony to dedicate a marker for the United States Colored Troops at the Dayton National Cemetery November 6th at 10:00 a.m.

e. Election of Camp Officers and social event and possible dinner at the Floretine is scheduled December 8th.

f. The County will receive contact-numbers for the Camp Officers.

g. The Ohio Department Mid Winter meeting will be held January 14th 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial.

h. There is a Mid Winter ball at the State House from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m January 28th. Contact Joel Flint at 297-2662 or email jflint@ohiohistory.org if interested.

i. Greenlawn Cemetery has proposed holding a Civil War program April 2006 if the Camp was interested in sponsoring it. Bro. McMahan will find out details about it.

j. The National Encampment in Harrisburg, Pa. is scheduled for August 10th to 13th.

k.. There will be a dedication for George Washington O'Hare, a Colored Civil War soldier of the 108th Regiment October 16th at 2:00 p.m. at the Maple Grove Cemetery in Mechanicsburg, Ohio

8. Good of the Order.

Bro. McMahan presented a biography about Dominick Rafferty, one of his ancestors and his experiences in the Civil War as a seaman and calvaryman.

Bro. Ward talked about the Irish Brigade and their contribution to the Civil War.

9. Closing Ceremonies

Commander Kenney adjourned the meeting at 9:15p.m.

Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Timothy J. Strominger.

The next meeting is on November 10th at 7:00 p.m. in room 205 at Veteran's Memorial.

Camp Calendar

Governor Dennison Camp No. 1, Department of Ohio	Chartered August 1, 1882
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Date	Time	Event	Location	Notes
10 Nov '05 Thu.	7:00 p.m.	Camp Meeting	Veterans Memorial	Room 205
8 Dec '05 Thu.	7:00 p.m.	Camp Meeting w/Camp Elections	Veterans Memorial	Room 205

Meetings: held at Room 205 Veterans Memorial 300 West Broad Street Columbus, Ohio

Camp Officers for 2005:

Commander: Gregory A. Kenney
Senior Vice Commander: Robert A. Davis
Junior Vice Commander: Keith L. Krinn
Council members: John Ward, R. Dale Tallman, James R. Seitz
Secretary-Treasurer Timothy J. Strominger
Patriotic Instructor: John Ward
Chaplain: James W. Morris
Graves Registration: David E. McMahon M.D.
Historian: Jonathan Davis
Civil War Memorials: Garry Inabnitt
Eagle Scout: R. Dale Tallman
Signals Officer: David E. McMahon M.D.

Dominick Rafferty

Dominick Rafferty was born in Ireland in 1831 and immigrated to Canton, Illinois before 1854 with his mother and three siblings. In 1861, when the Civil War broke out, Dominick was working as a laborer in New York City.

Dominick enlisted in the Navy in New York at age 30 as a 2nd class fireman on 11/25/61. That rating earned \$20.00 per month, \$2.00 more than an experienced deck seaman and \$8.00 more than a raw recruit. This compared to the wages of an ordinary laborer, about \$20.00 to \$25.00 per month in New York. He received 3 meals a day, living accommodations, travel experience, and medical care for which he paid 20 cents each month. The pay was held by the paymaster on the ship and doled out as needed for small items etc; at the end of his service, he was to receive all that had accrued

North Carolina in Boat (11/25/61- 12/30/1863)

He was sent to the receiving ship *USS North Carolina*, a former 74 gun wooden warship anchored in New York Harbor. It could hold 1000 recruits while they were being trained and awaiting assignment. Upon arrival he was given a physical, a navy uniform, eating utensils and rudimentary naval training. The uniform cost \$30 and was paid off in wages over the next months. It included 2 blue flannel shirts, socks, a hammock (72 inches long and 30 inches wide) with a hair mattress, two blankets and utensils: a metal cup, quart bucket, knife, spoon and fork. The routine aboard a receiving ship started with reveille at 6:00AM and ended with taps at 8:00PM. The outside clothing for firemen consisted of a blue cloth jacket and trousers, or blue woolen frock; black hats, black silk neckerchief, and shoes, or boots in cold weather. In warm weather it consisted of white frock and trouser, black or white hat, black silk neckerchief, and shoes. Thick blue cloth caps could also be worn when at sea. The jacket was rarely worn as a working garment. It was expected that firemen when coming off watch or duty would wash and dress themselves in a change of clothing.

After training, he was transferred to the *Chippewa*, a two-masted wood schooner-type screw steamer on 12/13/61, its day of commissioning. The *Chippewa* was a "90-day gunboat" a title given for the rapidity by which these boats were designed, built, and outfitted early in the War. The gunboat had a battery of one 11-inch Dahlgren on the waist pivot, two 24-pounders further aft, and a 20-pounder Parrott on the forecastle. It had 100 officers and men and carried 112 tons of coal, sufficient for five and a half days of steaming with the blowers, or ten days without.

Dominick was assigned to the engineering division. Duties included operation of the boilers, main engines, and auxiliary machinery; general maintenance of the equipment which included mechanical ventilation blowers, de-watering pumps, and distilling equipment. Since there was no insulation, temperatures up to 140 degrees were recorded in the engine room and 156 degrees in the fireroom. In addition, the wooden timbers and bilge water of the ship were a haven for dirt, excrement, food, oil, grease and vomit, all of which produced strong odor when exposed to the high heat and humidity in the engineering division. Another duty was the regular coaling by hand of the ship, which could take up to 12 hours, spreading coal dust throughout the ship which then had to be removed. Other jobs included caulking boiler rivets, reframing boilers, removing ash,

scrubbing the decks, and cleaning the bilges, condensers, boiler tubes, boiler fronts, and main engines. Add to this other preventive maintenance and overhaul meant that the engineers frequently worked long hours, 7 days a week.



On 11/29/61, the *Chippewa* proceeded to Hampton Roads Virginia, joining Goldsborough's fortilla cruising off Wilmington NC

On 2/1/62 the *Chippewa* sailed to Nags Head to cut off the Confederate retreat from Roanoke Island and dislodge any Confederate troops there. The *Chippewa* stayed on patrol until 2/26/62 when it returned to Hampton Roads for stores and repairs.

On 3/3/62, at Hampton Roads, the *Chippewa* was caught in a heavy gale and hit the *USS Mystic*, seriously damaging both vessels. The *Chippewa* was sent to Baltimore for repairs and did not get back till 3/14/62 when it was ordered to blockade Beaufort NC and prevent the blockade-runner *Nashville* from escaping.

A month later, when the Federals attacked Fort Macon, at the southern end of Pamlico Sound, the *Chippewa* was involved in the bombardment along with three other ships, at a range of 1 1/4 mile. The fort capitulated, giving up the approaches to Beaufort and Morehead City, the terminus of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad and the blockade-runners *Alliance* and *Gondar*.

In July after a damage survey, the *Chippewa* left for major repairs at Washington.

On 8/28/62 it is recorded that Dominick deserted the *Chippewa* at Washington. However, he was entered on the rolls of *USS Allegheny* on 8/30/62 and on 9/6/62 he entered the muster of the *USS Valley City* repairing at Baltimore, Maryland. He remained on her until December 1863 (except for two weeks when he was on the *USS Brandywine*).

The *USS Valley City* was a wood screw steamer, weighed 190 tons, 127'6" long and with a depth of 7'6". It had a compliment of 48 men. Armament consisted of four 32 pounders.42cwt. cannons, one 12 pound rifle, and one heavy 12 caliber cannon. Its maximum speed was 10 knots

On 9/12/62, the *Valley City* was sent to Yorktown, Virginia and then on to Plymouth, NC., arriving in the sounds of North Carolina on 10/29/62. Immediately it was involved in a naval expedition up the Roanoke River firing on a Confederate

encampment at Plymouth NC, forcing the confederates to withdraw. The ships then assisted the Army assault at Hamilton, NC and an unsuccessful raid up the Roanoke River. The *Valley City* patrolled the sounds, arrived in New Berne on 12/23/62 for stores and sailed later for Plymouth. The ship's rudder was "injured" on 1/17/63 but because of the need for its guns it was towed around for a while and was not sent for repairs until 2/15/63.

The *Valley City* was involved in the siege of Washington, NC from 3/31/63-4/16/63 when it took part in the bombardment of Confederate positions.

The *Valley City* was then sent to Plymouth to boost defenses in case of an attack. In July it went up the Chowder River and shelled Williamson, and later landed troops at Murfreesboro to destroy bridges. **Dominick's** last action on the *Valley City* was shelling the woods behind Plymouth NC driving out the rebels. On 11/24/63, the *Valley City* was sent to Hampton Roads. **He was reported as a deserter in January 1864, and entered as such on 2/9/64.** It should be noted that 4,649 sailors or 6% of the men who served in the navy deserted, especially in the last year of the war. *Still, "Common Sailor," Part 1, "the Yankee Blue Jackets." Civil War Times Illustrated 23 (Feb 1985) p39*

North Carolina on Horseback 1/17/64 - 7/19/65

On 12/30/63, Charles Freeman (Dominick Rafferty) enlisted at Brooklyn NY into the 12th New York Cavalry Regiment, Col. James W Savage commanding officer. On 1/17/64, he joined company E of the 12th at Rocky Run near New Bern, NC as a recruit from depot

On 2/1/64 Confederate General George E. Pickett attacked New Berne with the purpose of expelling the Federal troops from North Carolina. The 12th helped beat off the attack and remained at New Bern as the Cavalry shield, with Co.E at Rocky Run.

From 3/31/64 to 4/64, Dominick was at Mansfield USA General Hospital at Moorehead City, NC. While he was there, Plymouth NC surrendered on 4/20/64 to the Confederate Forces assisted by the Albemarle, a confederate ironclad: 2500 Union prisoners were taken including companies A and F of the 12 N.Y.

After this it was relatively quiet with only small raids such as one by Company E on 6/20/64 with infantry from Croatan who went via Pollacksville, Young's cross roads and Jacksonville returning 6 days later with 25 prisoners, horses, etc.

Dominick was placed on detached service at Plymouth NC on 11/3/64. Dominick stated that he was injured at Rocky Run in December, 1864 when he was thrown from his horse and his carbine discharged into his right arm below the shoulder. He was treated at the company hospital.

On 3/24/65 the regiment was attached to the 23 Army Corps for the attack on Goldsborough, NC. Its job at this time was scouting and screening the movement of the troops with companies were sent to different spots to chase off the rebels who harassed Sherman's foragers. An example was the skirmish at Snowey Hill, when it took a calvary charge to drive off the rebels. The battle at Kinston lead to 80 regimental casualties: 1 officer, 2 men killed; 4wounded; 69captured or missing. In late March Goldsborough fell.

On 4/8/65 a squadron of 12th Cavalry was sent to relieve Gen. Kilpatrick's men at Faison's at the headquarters. Some were detached to occupy Goldsborough with the 3rd Infantry Brigade and the 22nd Indiana Battery. Otherwise, the war ended as follows:

Special Field Order #43 4/27/1865: "12th New York Cavalry is assigned to Bevert Major General Kilpatrick's Cavalry Division. Colonel Commanding will report accordingly by letter for orders"

General Order #31 - Raleigh NC 4/27/65: "...the war is over in North Carolina..."

The regiment moved into Raleigh in July 1865. **Charles Freeman (Dominick Rafferty) and the rest of the regiment mustered out at Raleigh, NC on 7/19/65.** They turned in their horses, were then marched to City Point, Va. and then took steamers to New York City where they received their final pay.

At the time of the mustering out of the unit, the regiment had the following losses:

	Officers	Enlisted
Killed in action	2	20
Died of Wounds	1	16
Died of Disease	5	178
Died at Andersonville	1	84
Deserted		157
Hon. Discharges	17	316
At End of War	13	763

After the War

Canton and Quincy, Illinois: fall 1865- 5/22/1914

Dominick returned to Canton, Illinois in the fall of 1865 dressed in his soldier's clothes carrying a cavalry sword, carbine, belt, and cartridge box. He also had the Cavalry boots, oilcloth coat and pair of gloves that his brother had sent him. On 12/26/65 he married Bridget Connelly also from Ireland where she was born in 1842. They had two daughters, but only one reached adulthood. His wife and daughter died sometime before 2/22/92 when he entered the Illinois Soldiers and Sailors Home in Quincy, Illinois. He received pension # 605043, granted Sept 20, 1890, for the gunshot wound to his right arm and breast at \$6.00 per month. His medical condition at the time he was in the home was " general and senile debility, loss of left eye, rheumatism of the left hip and left knee, and heart trouble." His time at the Home was interrupted by several absences for being AWOL, but he died on 5/22/14 in the Hospital at Home of "Gangrene of foot" at age 82

He is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Canton, Illinois..

Submitted by David E. McMahon