

Jan. 7 - Committee appointed to get Past Commanders pictures taken, framed and hung in foyer of the Temple at the expense of the Commandery.

Jan. 7 - Sir Knight Dale E. Miller requested by Grand Commander Henderson to inspect 6th District since Sir Knight Dullnig, Grand Senior Warden was unable to make the visitations. Sir Knight Miller made the inspections even though on such short notice.

Feb. 18 - The Sixth inspection of our Commandery by Sir Knight H. B. "Jake" Beard, E. Grand Capt. General.

Tactics - Full Opening with substitute Treasurer	99.4
Ritual - Full Order of the Temple	100.00

So on this inspection we brought back the Kidd Banner and retained the Gilbough Banner because a perfect score is very difficult to beat.

April 1 - Resolution adopted changing our by-laws and stated conclaves to first Wednesday of each month instead of first Friday.

April 3 - Centennial Celebration of Grand Commandery K. T. of Texas at Galveston, Texas. All sessions of the Grand Commandery including asylum competition and banquet held in Marine Room on Pleasure Pier. The divine services were held on the pier Sunday afternoon following a parade. Sir Knight Dale E. Miller, Chairman of the Necrology Committee, conducted the memorial service in his usual fine manner.

April 4 - The traditional breakfast given by our Commander Ackley for the officers and their ladies was in the Pirates Room of the Galvez Hotel. Sir Knight Vance K. Miller also attended this very enjoyable breakfast.

#### State Competition -

Score 99.8 -- Highest in State for the fourth consecutive year for our fine officers. All of our officers were present with the exception of our Sentinel, Sir Knight Daugherty, who had recently undergone surgery and Sir Knight Sharpe, one of the guards who was unable to attend.

April 8 - Good Friday -- Excellent buffet dinner served by the officers at six thirty after which the Order of the Temple was conferred by Sir Knight H. Jack Hefner on a class named in his honor after which a communion service was held under supervision of Sir Knight Dr. J. E. Detweiler. This was a most wonderful occasion it being Good Friday, Order of the Temple and Communion and was enjoyed by all present. We were honored by the presence of Sir Knight Chas. E. Cook, R. E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery K. T. of Indiana who had attended our Grand Commandery and was visiting with his cousin Sir. Knight T. A. Fouts one of our members. Sir Knight Cook was officially received, being introduced by Sir Knight Vance K. Miller, and was presented an honorary membership in our Commandery which he accepted with words of feeling and appreciation.

May 4 - Sir Knight Dale E. Miller, Prelate conducted a most beautiful Memorial Service in memory of 10 members of our Commandery who had passed to their heavenly reward since our Commandery received its dispensation June 14, 1948.

Paul D. Beckler	Robert A. Later
Ernest G. Fritz	W. Tim Turner
Charles P. "Dad" Holmes	John Phillips
Walter P. Craft	William H. Coates

#### Honorary Members

Frederick M. Gilbough	- R. E. P.G. C.
Claud Cross	- E. G. Generalissimo

May 14 - Sir Knight Edward A. Volts passed away.

May 19 - Sir Knight Almon W. Olden passed away. These two good Sir Knights will be missed greatly in our gatherings but their many fine deeds will be long remembered.

May 28 - Alexander C. Garrett Lodge opened at 5:30 A. M. and conferred the first of several Master Degrees after which breakfast was served to more than ninety Masons.

At noontime lunch was served.

The Royal Arch Chapter opened and conferred the Royal Arch Degree, then,

The Council Royal and Select Masters opened and conferred the Council degrees.

Then Dinner served by the ladies of the Eastern Star.

The Commandery was then opened and the Order of the Temple was conferred.

Many Grand officers of all bodies were present and properly introduced.

A most joyous occasion.

July 6 - 7th Anniversary Alexander C. Garrett Commandery No. 103, K. T. -- delicious dinner at 6 o'clock served by the ladies of the Eastern Star Chapter. On this occasion the "Founders" or the 25 signers of the petition and the Charter members were honored.

Only eight of the now remaining 21 original signers were present:

Harry E. Blanchard	Dale E. Miller
Lorenz H. Bohmfalk	*Kenneth E. Stallones
H. Jack Hefner	John W. Taylor
J. Leon Kelsay	M. L. "Jerry" Willows

Sir Knight Hefner, at the request of the Commander, gave a brief resume of the history and high lights of our Commandery since its beginning and by motion duly passed was adopted as the authentic history of our Commandery.

July 27 - The officers all stepped up a station and conferred the Order of the Temple and a very good Order it was. This was the first time for C. E. Cason, Jr. to confer the Order.

Aug. 1 - Garrett Commandery was invited to confer a Master Degree in and for Garrett Lodge in Templar Uniform.

The following Sir Knights took part:

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| W. M. - H. Jack Hefner               | 6th F. C. - W. E. Glidewell     |
| S. W. - W. L. Crowdus, Sr.           | 7th F. C. - Allan Terrill       |
| J. W. - Claude Creekmore, Jr.        | 8th F. C. -                     |
| Sec'y - Edward A. Copley             | 9th F. C. - Tom Stephenson      |
| Sr. D. - H. E. Blanchard             | 10th F. C. - L. G. Stockweather |
| Jr. D. - <del>Roy C. Daugherty</del> | 11th F. C. - Copley & Creekmore |
| Master C - C. E. Cason, Sr.          | 12th F. C. - Howard Harris      |
| 1st F. C. - H. E. Blanchard          | 1st Ruf. - Hastings Ackley      |
| 2nd F. C. - C. E. Cason, Jr.         | 2nd Ruf. - Douglas B. Reid      |
| 3rd F. C. - C. Mynor Henry           | 3rd Ruf. - George Crowdus       |
| 4th F. C. - Lenox Truitt             | Apron - C. E. Cason, Sr.        |
| 5th F. C. - T. E. Wright             | Lecture - Ed A. Copley          |

Standard Guard who presented U. S. Flag very effectively, Ackley, Reid, and George Crowdus.

This was a very excellent degree and probably the last one the Commandery will ever confer in full Templar Uniform since George Moffett - M. W. Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Texas, ruled against it. Degrees may be conferred in uniform but no jewels, belts or chapeaux can be used.

Sept. 14 - A very good order of Red Cross was conferred with Sir Knight Vance K. Miller making a very interesting and enlightening address on the Order.

Sept. 28 - Order of the Temple. Sir Knight E. Hastings Ackley took Prelate's part for the first time and did a splendid job as he always does.

Sept. 30 - School of Instruction for District No. 1 under the direction of Sir Knight Gus L. Meyer, E. Grand Junior Warden in Garrett Asylum and Garrett as host. A delicious dinner was served by the Garrett O.E.S. after which a very profitable School was enjoyed.

Dallas, Tancred, Garrett, De Molay, Wills Point and McKinney Commanderies were represented. We were honored with the presence of:

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|----------------------------|---------------------|
| R. E. Past Grand Commander | Harry B. Tuer       |
| R. E. Past Grand Commander | Vance K. Miller     |
| E. Grand Senior Warden     | J. Carlisle Garlitz |
| E. Grand Junior Warden     | Gus L. Meyer        |
| E. Grand Sword Bearer      | H. Jack Hefner      |

Oct. 1 - We were saddened by the passing of Sir Knight Robert E. Simmons, Past Commander of Tancred Commandery No. 82 and Honorary Member of Garrett Commandery No. 103 K.T. He died as a result of an automobile accident and was buried with Knight Templar honors and Funeral Ceremony. Sir Knight Simmons was most helpful in all our efforts in forming Garrett Commandery; he conferred the first Order of Malta in and for our Commandery and personally presented us with ten leather shoulder belts for use in connection with our Asylum Swords. Bob was a true friend, a zealous Knight Templar and will long be remembered for his wonderful spirit of helpfulness.

Oct. 5 - Stated Conclave. Sir Knight Gerald G. Moore, Dean of St. Matthews Cathedral and honorary member of our Commandery delivered a most interesting and informative address on the Order of Malta and the significance of the Malta "Service" used in the Order. Too bad all of our members were not present.

Nov. 2 - Stated Conclave - Sir Knight Vance K. Miller - R. E. Past Grand Commander and "Father" of Garrett Commandery made a most interesting address on Templary which was greatly appreciated. A class of candidates, one of whom was Uncle Gene Thompson, was designated the Vance K. Miller class in honor of our most beloved Sir Knight.

Nov. 4 - Garrett Commandery furnished a uniformed Templar Escort for Garrett bodies at the annual afternoon Memorial Service held at the grave of Bishop Alexander Charles Garrett, K.T. - The Knights stood in Passion Cross formation during the ceremonies and address of Rev. Mix.

Nov. 4 - The class, named in honor of S. K. Vance K. Miller, received the 11. Order of the Red Cross with S. K. Harry B. Tuer, R. E. Past Grand Commander conferring a most impressive Order with S. K. Vance K. Miller as High Priest and giving the lecture.

Nov. 9 - This class received the Order of Malta with S. K. H. Jack Hefner conferring. S. K. Vance K. Miller as Chaplin and S. K. Dale E. Miller as Marshall.

Nov. 11 - Dinner, given by the officers of Garrett Commandery, for the officers, candidates and Vance K. Miller, honoree, Harry B. Tuer, Alex D. Fraser and H. Jack Hefner was most thoroughly enjoyed at Sammy's Restraunt. The officers went all out and presented S. K. Vance K. Miller with Knight Templar Cuff Links and Tie Bar, this being his birthday he in turn made a very gracious acceptance speech. This was truly an expression of love for him by the officers of Garrett.

All then repaired to the Asylum where this fine class received the beautiful Order of the Temple conferred by S. K. Vance K. Miller with S. K. Harry B. Tuer as Generalissimo, S. K. H. Jack Hefner as Captain General and S. K. A. D. Fraser as Prelate; officers of Garrett Commandery filled the remaining stations with S. K. Charlie Cason, Sr. furnishing the music and running the film.

This indeed was a very beautiful and most impressive Order after which Sir Knight Miller presented each of the members of the class with a beautiful Knight Templar lapel pin.

(Note: A special dinner had been planned for Sir Knight Vance and all our members, to be held in our banquet room, but due to preparations being made for early morning breakfast to be held the next morning for opening of "homecoming" day for the Lodge it was impossible for us to have the dinner as planned.) #

Dec. 7 - Stated Conclave: Through the kindness and generosity of Sir Knight Rupert Phillips of Richardson, who gave the Commandery fifty dressed fryers, we enjoyed a delicious barbequed chicken dinner, after which Stated Conclave and election of officers was held, then the Order of the Temple was conferred.

Dec. 14 - Public Installation of Charlie E. Cason, Jr., Commander and other officers of the Commandery. Sir Knight H. Jack Hefner, E. Grand Sword Bearer, was installing Commander assisted by Sir Knight Harry B. Tuer, R. E. Past Grand Commander as Prelate, and Sir Knights Harry E. Blanchard and Edward A. Copley, Past Commanders as Marshalls. The wives of the officers assisted in the installation which added so very much to the effectiveness of the occasion.

Sir Knight Eli Hastings Ackley, retiring Commander, was presented his Past Commanders Jewel by Sir Knight H. Jack Hefner who complimented Sir Knight Ackley very highly as being the first and only member of Garrett Commandery who had been created therein--served through the chairs and conferred all the Orders.

Sir Knight George Bushong delighted all with two beautiful vocal solos. Sir Knight Vance K. Miller, R. E. Past Grand Commander, delivered a wonderful address on Templary after which the ladies, Knights and friends repaired to the banquet room where Miss Edith Pavey and her committee served most delicious refreshments.

Dec. 23 - Garrett Commandery was host to Dallas and Tancred Commanderies for the Christmas Observance ceremonies. Sir Knight Warren Newman, E. Past Grand Prelate, was the speaker and, as usual, his address was most inspiring and meaningful.

Dec. 31- Thus closes another happy and very successful Templar year.  
The following figures reflect a steady growth.

	Membership Dec. 31, 1954	281
Creations -	34	
Affiliations -	<u>2</u>	
	36	
Deaths - Oden - Rice - Volts	3	
Demissions -	0	
Suspensions -	<u>0</u>	
	3	
	Net Gain	33
	Total Membership Dec. 31, 1956	314

The richest and most enjoyable  
experiences of my Masonic life  
have been made possible by  
Templary at A. C. Garrett where  
I have been privileged to meet  
with the finest and associates with  
ever created group of Knights Templar

Sincerely  
W. Jack Taylor

8-17-55