the Thayer Quarterly

A QUEST FOR YOUR HERITAGE

March 2004 | ©Thayer Families Association | Volume 12, Issue 1

www.ThayerFamily.com | 346 Washington St. PMB #310 Braintree, MA 02184-4702 | Spring

THAYER FAMILIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND FAMILY REUNION JUNE 25 - 26, 2004 THAYER ACADEMY BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 25th 1:00 p.m. A TOUR OF PLIMOUTH PLANTATION PLYMOUTH - WHERE IT ALL BEGAN!

Join us for a return to the past in Plymouth where the Pilgrims landed in 1620. You will visit the beautifully recreated **Plimoth Plantation** where time stands still. As you enter this meticulously reconstructed village, all the interpreters are in 17th century costume and portray specific people who were in Plimoth in that year - John Alden, Myles Standish, Governor Bradford, and more. Their roles and their accents are authentic. For them the year is **1627**. You will be amazed at what you learn. You will also go aboard Mayflower II, where the staff will take you back to the harrowing voyage to the New World. How 102 passengers and 30 crew survived the two-month journey in such cramped quarters is hard to imagine. Finally, you will certainly want to take a look at Plymouth Rock, that symbol of rugged endurance and Pilgrim courage.

We will depart Thayer Academy at 1:00 p.m. Friday, June 25, 2004 and return to Thayer Academy at 6:00 p.m. The fare is $21 for adults and $18 for students up to age 18. All admissions and gratuities are included, as well as a comfortable touring coach and the services of an experienced guide. There are food facilities at Plimoth Plantation but not included in the tour cost

RESERVATIONS (INCLUDING ADMISSIONS) MUST BE SENT TO TFA BY JUNE 1st, please complete the reservation form elsewhere in this issue.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26th

Saturday morning may be used to visit local sites of historical importance, as well as cemeteries. Maps will be available for your use.

ANNUAL MEETING AND FAMILY REUNION TO BEGIN WITH LUNCH AT 12:00 NOON AT THAYER ACADEMY FOLLOWED BY THE MEETING.

The lunch will include:

- Salad bar/deli bar
- Cookies and brownies/pudding
- Beverage line including coffee

Reservations required by June 1 Cost: $12.00 per person.

Following the meeting, at 6 p.m., we will gather for "A FAMILY DINNER" to be held also at THAYER ACADEMY.

The menu will include the following:

- Rolls/Butter
- Coffee/tea/soda
- Tossed Salad
- Buffet including: roast sirloin, stuffed - chicken breast with gravy
- Roasted red potatoes
- Asparagus
- Pasta primavera with Alfredo sauce
- Home made apple pie ala mode with vanilla ice cream

Reservations needed by June 1 cost: $25.00 per person.

PLEASE SEND ALL RESERVATIONS TO:

TFA
346 Washington Street PMB #310
Braintree, MA 02194-4702

Reservation form is found elsewhere in this issue.

玲子 セイア
Reiko Thayer

私の名前は玲子セイアです。私は日本の山形県で生まれました。私の父の名前は修
高梨、そして母の名前はきよみ
高梨です。私はスポーツを見る事、映画を見る事が好きです。私は現在ボブ
セイアと結婚しとても素敵な大勢の家族の一員となれた事を誇りに思います。

My name is Reiko Thayer and I was born in Yamagata, Japan. My father and mother are Osamu and Kiyomi Takanashi. I like to watch people playing sports and I like to watch movies. I am now married to Bob Thayer and I am proud to be apart of a very nice and large family.

Bob and I first met at a BBQ that he was having with his friends on the Naval base in Yokosuka Japan in the late spring of 2001. I was there only because my friend was dating one of Bob's friends at the time. Bob and I didn't really talk too much because at the time we were both really shy. About a week or two after the BBQ, I went with my friend to the Naval base again to meet her boyfriend at one of his baseball games. I was surprised when I arrived there because Bob was there as well playing on the baseball team. Bob and I talked a little bit more there but I was dating someone else at the time so we didn't talk too much.

Bob and I didn't talk or see each other for a year after the baseball game so I thought that Bob had already went back to the states and I would never see him again. I went with my friend to Yokosuka again to go to a club that I have never been to before to hang out and talk with friends. We were there for about an hour when my friend noticed that Bob was in the club. I was really surprised and didn't know what to say to him. He said hi and then went into the back of the club to be with his friends so I didn't think he remembered me and got a little sad.

An hour after Bob had come into the club he came over to the table that my friends and I were sitting at and sat down next to me. Bob and I started talking and we talked for about two to three hours and had a good time together. We all had to leave to go home and so Bob walked my friends and I to the train station and on the way there we all decided to meet up at a dance club in Yokohama the next weekend.

We all met at the club and we all talked and danced and we had a really good time together again. My friends were already calling us boyfriend and girlfriend even though neither of us asked the other out yet. We stayed at the club all night and took pictures and Bob and I gave each other our phone numbers so we could talk more.

On March 4th 2002 Bob called me and while we were talking on the phone he finally asked me to be his girlfriend. I was really surprised but also really happy and I said yes. So we started to meet each other more and go on dates and we had a lot of fun together. We were together on the 18th of October 2002 when we went for a walk by a river and Bob said he needed to ask me a very important question in Japanese. I was very curious and when he asked me to marry him in Japanese, I couldn't say anything for like five minutes. Finally when I was able to talk again I said yes and so now we were engaged and really happy together.

We were engaged for a while and finally we were able to make time to go to my parents' house together. We wanted to go to my parent's house so Bob could get permission from my father to marry me. Bob and my family got alone good and during dinner, Bob asked my father in Japanese if he could marry me and my father said yes which made us all really happy.

We were finally able to get all the paper work done and on the 1st of December 2003 we got married to each other. I know Bob and I will have a great life together and I can't wait to go to some of the family reunions and meet a lot of my new family.

Editor's note: Reiko, Welcome to the FAMILY! Thanks for this great introduction.

Bob[14] is the son of Jeffrey Lynn[13] Thayer who was also served in the Navy. Bob's lineage is: Bobby Joe[14], Jeffrey Lynn[13], Richard Dean[12], Ira Noble[11], Cyrus Therman[10], Ira Nahum[9], Cyrus[8], Nahum Pond[7], Jarvis[6], Silas[5], John[4], Isaac[3], Ferdinando[2], Thomas[1]. Bob is the Editor's nephew, and serving in the US Navy, currently stationed onboard the warship USS Curtis Wilbur, forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, and is faithfully defending our country. ⚓

Alexander Wheelock Thayer

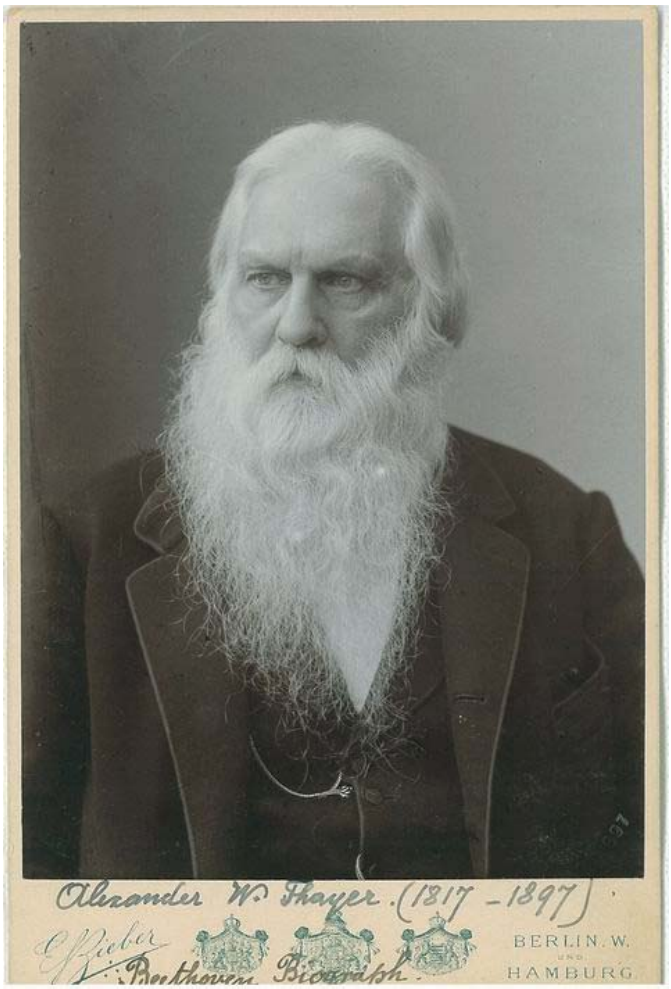
by Luigi Bellofatto

Luigi Bellofatto, an Italian fellow music lover and Beethoven aficionado, has done a vast amount of research into the life and works of Alexander Wheelock Thayer. He undertook this work after reading the three volume, monumental biography of Ludwig van Beethoven by Alexander Wheelock Thayer. The research is much too long and detailed to publish in the Thayer Quarterly, so this summary will have to suffice. Luigi is finalizing his research and hopes to have it published soon.

Alexander Wheelock Thayer, whose birth was recorded in the Natick Massachusetts Town records as 22 October 1817, was son of Dr. Alexander Thayer (1785-1824) and Susanna Bigelow Thayer (1790-1845). This date is somewhat in doubt however, as Luigi has read personal correspondence from Alexander Thayer stating he was born 17 October 1817. Alexander Wheelock Thayer never married, and died 15 July 1897 of Marasmo Senile (as written in his death report). His death was widely reported in many publications but only recently his tomb discovered in the Evangelic Cemetery in Trieste, Italy.

During his research, Mr. Bellofatto delved into the ancestry and history of the paternal (Thayer) and maternal (Bigelow) sides and discusses them in his article. Both families were well educated and contributed both to community and the arts in Massachusetts. He examines both the family relationship and the literary relationship with Harriet Beecher Stowe. Calvin Stowe, Harriet's husband, was a first cousin to Alexander Wheelock; the Stowe's lived in the house in Natick, which Alexander's father had built in 1816. Alexander was one of three children and his brother Henry Bigelow Thayer was a prominent physician who established a pharmaceutical manufacturing firm, the Henry Thayer & Company. His only sister Susanna Bigelow Thayer died at an early age of 25, unmarried.

Alexander Wheelock Thayer, although he never married, was apparently devoted to his family. Mr. Bellofatto examined over 240 pieces of correspondence, in which Thayer discussed his family. He spent many years in Europe, but with correspondence and visits he maintained a close relationship with his family. An example of his familial ties occurred with the dedication of his book *"The Hebrews and the Red Sea"* (Andover, Warren



F. Draper, 1883). Alexander had originally written the dedication to his brother Henry Bigelow Thayer but Henry died 17 May 1882 in Cambridge Massachusetts prior to the publication. Alexander changed the dedication to reflect Henry's wife Mrs. Jane Cook Thayer and the dedication read: "To Mrs. Jane Cook Thayer. This page as first written has been cancelled; for he whose name adorned it has put on immortality. Let it now, my Sister, record in part those qualities which endeared him to us beyond the ordinary affection of family ties: the tender sympathies, the generous disposition, the refined tastes, the spotless integrity of HENRY THAYER, your husband, my brother, Trieste, June 1882".

Alexander Wheelock Thayer received his early education in Natick, Massachusetts, where he was one of the thirteen original members of the celebrated Natick Lyceum. He was a bright young

man and engaged in many cultural pursuits including a debating society, a society for the improvement of writing and debating. He was the first singing master in Natick; this was a precursor to his lifelong love of music. During his research, Mr. Bellofatto discovered that Alexander Wheelock Thayer was also a composer of music. Some of this music still exists, although very rare Mr. Bellofatto has some examples (one is *"The Phantom Band,"* an Humorous Quartet and Chorus). He continued his education at the Phillips Academy at Andover Massachusetts and in 1839 entered Harvard, graduating in 1843. He was obviously a good student as his dissertation on Philosophy, entitled *"The Tendencies in Modern Philosophy*" won the Bowdoin Prize in July 1843. He continued his education and in 1846 Harvard awarded him another AM degree and in 1849 an LLB and Bachelor in Law.

To support himself during the long period of education, Alexander Wheelock Thayer became a proctor at Harvard, and had worked as an assistant in the Harvard Library under the knowledgeable direction of Thaddeus William Harris. This experience proved invaluable in his later research on Beethoven. During the same period, his interest in music intensified and he studied many forms; but he was particularly interested in Psalmody and the work of William Billings a foremost musician of the times. During this period, he also was first published with a series of eight articles in 1846 consisting of "The Catalogue of American Singing Books collected by Alexander W. Thayer of Cambridge, Mass." At this purpose during his research Bellofatto have found an interesting *"100th Psalm version"* dated 1846 and printed by A. W. Thayer As he says it is a Psalm "To be sung at the Tea Party given in the Town-Hall at Natick, October 28, 1846 for the purpose of raising means to purchase a copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, to be preserved in the Archives of the Town"; now this copy is at Natick Historical Society Museum.

During the time he was employed in the Harvard Library, he read two works on Beethoven written between 1838 and 1845 in German and translated to English (by Schindler and Wegeler-Ries). He noted discrepancies in them and decided to travel to Europe and learn German with the aim of correcting the translations. In 1848, possibly to finance his travel, he was employed by the United States Geological Survey in their survey of the Copper mining district near Lake Superior.

In April 1849, he left for Europe, first arriving in Bonn Germany. He studied German in Bonn until October 1849 and also collected material on Beethoven. To help support himself during this period he wrote articles and letters for American Newspapers, particularly the *Boston Courier*. These articles were on the Art and Literature of Europe. In October 1849, he left Bonn and traveled to Berlin, Germany, where he remained until the Spring of 1851. There he continued his study of German and the arts and literature of Europe. He also spent some time in Prague, Vienna and London.

His part time employment of writing could not support further travel and study so in November 1851 he returned to The United States where he became a member of the staff of the New York Tribune. His letters indicate he did not like New York in any way. This distaste led him back to the Lake Superior area where he again worked on a geological survey of the copper mining area.

In 1852, he began to write for *Dwight's Journal of Music* and continued to contribute to it until it went out of existence in 1881. In July 1854, he returned to Germany to gather more information on Beethoven, visiting Hanover, Kassel and Bonn. He traveled to Berlin, and from November to June 1855, he worked with Beethoven materials in the Royal Library in Berlin, which had been gathered and purchased by the Prussian Government. He traveled to Dresden and Leipzig visiting persons who were friends and colleagues of Beethoven for their first hand knowledge of him. He returned to Berlin and remained there until March 1856.

In the Spring of 1856, he began to have severe financial problems and health problems which forced him to return to the United States. He found employment with Lowell Mason between 1856 and 1858 cataloguing his extensive music library and continued writing for *Dwight's Journal of Music*. Lowell Mason and Mrs. Mehetabel Adams of Cambridge became interested in Alexander W. Thayer's research on Beethoven and began to provide the funds that he needed to continue the work. With the 1866 publication of his first volume of the Beethoven Biography (*"Ludwig van Beethoven's Leben"*), he dedicated it to them. The

first edition was in German but the dedication was in English: "To Mrs. Mehetabel Adams (of Cambridge in Massachusetts) and Lowell Mason, Doctor of Music (of South Orange in New Jersey) this German edition of a work, the researches for which they so essentially aided, is inscribed by The Author".

With the necessary funds, Alexander Wheelock Thayer returned to Europe in August 1858. Just before departing, he wrote his first results of his Beethoven researches, entitled "Beethoven: his childhood and youth" published in *The Atlantic Monthly* in May 1858. Under the title he stated "From original Sources" and it means that this is the beginning of his realistic and factual biography of Beethoven, or as he called it several times in his letters, "my Work". From 1858 to 1869, his research continued with printed sources and persons who had known and worked with Beethoven, primarily in Germany, Austria and England. He received from an old lady a copy of Mahler's painting of Beethoven, which remained with him until his death. The portrait is now in the New York City Library. During his period of research he continued to write articles for *Dwight's Journal* , the *NY Tribune* and other newspapers.

Alexander Wheelock Thayer published his first book in 1862, but it was not on his main research subject, Beethoven. It was entitled "*Signor Masoni and other papers of the late I. Brown"*, published in Berlin and Boston. It was a volume of 282 pages consisting of 10 musical novelettes in English, most of them previously published in *Dwight's Journal* and dedicated to Lady Fräulein Auguste Grimm, an acquaintance in Berlin. I. Brown apparently was a pseudonym for the author. His first volume of Beethoven's Biography was in draft form and being revised and translated into German.

In January 1862, Alexander Wheelock Thayer was appointed and entered service with the United States Legation in Vienna as an assistant to the Minister. He remained in that position from 1861 until 1864, and he continued his Beethoven research. In November 1864, he was nominated, selected, and began work as United States Consul in Trieste, at that time controlled by Austria from January 1865. He had tried unsuccessfully to get the Consular position in Berlin, as evidenced by his own correspondence. In Trieste, he lived in a fine palace, which he filled with Beethoven memorabilia. He apparently enjoyed life in Trieste and was by all indications popular with the inhabitants there. Along with his formal duties, he participated with enthusiasm in the musical and social life of the city (Mr. Bellofatto discovered that he was the President of the Schiller-Verein, a Musical Association in Trieste). He enjoyed walking along the promenade and must have been unusual with his long silver beard and blue eyes in this city on the Adriatic. Although he continued to travel with his research, Trieste became Thayer's home until his death.

Alexander Wheelock Thayer's first publication on Beethoven is "*Chronologisches Verzeichniss der Werke Ludwig van Beethoven"*, published by Ferdinand Schneider in 1865. The book, of 208 pages, is inscribed "To Fräulen Leopoldine Anacker, in grateful recognition of valuable aid during researches for and in the preparation of this work." He finished writing this book in October 1864 while still in Vienna. According to his own opinion, this first book was poorly received and did not even recover research costs.

In 1866, ten years after the manuscript was first prepared, Alexander Wheelock Thayer published the first Volume of his *Biography of Beethoven*. It was published in German, according to his own words, because he was unable to oversee an English Edition in the United States and he desired to have the "full benefits of the German readers." In other words he was looking for their reactions. The volume was 384 pages and dedicated to Mrs. Mehetabel Adams and Lowell Mason, who had provided him with funds to continue his research in Europe. Mrs. Adams was possibly an aunt on his maternal side. The first volume carried the life of Beethoven to the year 1795.

Alexander W. Thayer was seriously ill in January and February of 1867 and thus there was a delay in getting Volume II to the translator. It was not until 1870 that it was ready for translation to German. Volume II of the *Biography of Beethoven* carried his life from 1796 to 1806 and was published in Berlin by W. Weber in 1872. In the meantime, he published, in English, a book entitled "*A Biography of Ludwig van Beethove",* Little, Brown & Co, published it in Boston in 1869. As Mr. Bellofatto found only its title page, so he could not discuss the book in detail. He found no reference to this book in other writings concerning Alexander Wheelock

Thayer; this is very important because nobody believed, since this discover, that his Beethoven's Biography has been published in English and moreover in United States! He also wrote an interesting essay on the commercial future in Trieste and published in Italian and German, with the following titles *"L'Avvenire Commerciale di Trieste"* (23 pages) and *"Die Commercielle Zukunft Triest's"* (25 pages) and both were published in Trieste by Tipografia Peternelli & Morterra in 1872.

W. Weber in Berlin published the third and final volume of the *Biography of Beethoven* in 1879. The 519-page volume carried Beethoven's life from 1807 to 1816. The volume was completed before May 1876 but the delay was in the translation. Although there were at least four books on Beethoven, the three volumes prepared by Alexander Wheelock Thayer are considered the best and most detailed biography of Beethoven; however it was not complete. In March of 1880, Thayer wrote to a friend that due to illness and his counselor work, that his work on the Beethoven biography had not advanced in over a year. He continued that he was seeking medical help with a trip to the United States and if he was helped he could finish his work within a year in German and then work for an English and French edition. Obviously, the medical help he sought was not found, as a Fourth Volume never was completed. The three existing volumes did, however, dispel some of the myths and exaggerations of other biographers and provide a wealth of detail on the life of Beethoven. Another book on Beethoven is a small pamphlet of 48 pages had been published by W. Weber in Berlin in 1877, under the title "*Ein Kritischer Beitrag zur Beethoven Literatur"*.

From 1858, when he left for Europe, Alexander Wheelock Thayer had returned to the United States only briefly in 1863, 1871 and 1880. He seemed very happy and devoted to his adopted home of Trieste, and tried to promote its interests through his position. Due to his continuing medical problems, in March 1881, he requested to be replaced as Consul. He remained as Consul in Trieste until 1 Oct 1882 when a replacement was appointed and in place. For the first few months, Thayer offered his help to his successor to overcome the latter's lack of language skills in German and Italian.

Following his replacement as Consul, he continued to work on his Beethoven Biography but made little progress due to health problems. He suffered with severe headaches and from eye problems as he aged.

Despite his health problems, Alexander Wheelock Thayer did continue to write and to travel throughout Europe. He privately published a pamphlet on Natick, Massachusetts dedicated to his brother Henry in March of 1882 titled *"Stanzas for the centennial celebration of the town of Natick, Mass. June 1, 1881"* (Trieste, Tipografia Pisani, 1882, 13 pages). In 1883, he finished *"The Hebrews and the Red Sea",* which was published by Warren F. Drapen, Andover, 140 pages. He apparently became very interested in the Hebrews and wrote several additional articles concerning them and, in 1892, another book entitled *"The Hebrews in Egypt and their Exodus"* published at Trieste by Morterra & Co. 118 pages and "Privately printed for use as Manuscript – NOT FOR SALE"; but it was later published in 1897 by his friend of many years and public librarian at Peoria, Mr. E. S. Wilcox and printed in 300 copies only.

There are indications in his correspondence that in 1892 he was preparing an English edition of his Beethoven work, but he had no expectation of the financial success of such a venture. Mr. Bellofatto has uncovered a number of unpublished manuscripts on various subjects that he discusses in his article; one of them is entitled *"The Märchen of the Wanderchild*" (a children story).

Alexander Wheelock Thayer died in Trieste on 15 July 1897, and was buried in a tomb in the Evangelic Cemetery there. His will was filed 21 July 1897 in the Middlesex County Court at East Cambridge, Massachusetts. The will was signed 26 January 1887 and his niece Susan's husband, Jabez Fox, was named executor. A bequest of $30,000 was made to Harvard University for scholar assistance with priority to "young men bearing the name Thayer." Other private bequests were made.

Following the death of Alexander Wheelock Thayer, the then US Consul in Trieste, Edward Nettles, reported his death to the Secretary of State, William R. Day. He said he had flown the flag at half-mast and wrote a short sketch remarking that Thayer had been an appreciated figure in the social and artistic life of Trieste. He further stated that a fourth volume of the Biography had been intended but never completed. For his consular merits, and for his critical and musical historical musical writings, Thayer was decorated with Iron Crown (and not Cross as wrongly quoted in few articles, as Mr. Bellofatto notes), III Class by the Emperor of Austria.

His death was reported in many journals and media both in the United States and abroad Mr. Bellofatto has identified a large number of these. All of the papers of Alexander Wheelock Thayer were sent from Trieste to his niece, Mrs. Susan Elizabeth Fox, his primary heir.

The unfinished Volume IV of the *Beethoven Biography* remains a mystery. Certainly Thayer continued to write, but speculations of health problems and the inability to deal with certain events in the life of Beethoven are suspect. Thayer himself wrote in a letter that there were many painful pages in his work, many of which, if the facts and justice to the dead permitted, one would gladly suppress. Many other reasons have been discussed and reported by Mr. Bellofatto but none confirmed. Prof. Hermann Deiters and Hugo Riemann who completed the biography on Beethoven, which read very much like the style of Alexander Wheelock Thayer, used Thayer's notes and materials. Then Thayer's notes were sent to Henry E. Krehbiel and it was published in 1921 by The Beethoven Association (New York) in three volumes In 1964, Professor E. Forbes revised and published, in two volumes, Thayer's Life of Beethoven (Princeton, Princeton U.P.), which is considered the most important and complete biography of Beethoven. A revision in 1967 noted the discovery of Thayer's tomb in Trieste in 1965.

Tombs in Europe are reused over time unless tomb rent is maintained. A descendant of Alexander Wheelock Thayer's niece and heir has paid the tomb rent until 2007 when it becomes due again. The cost is 261.29 Euros for a ten-year period and 50 Euros per year for cemetery maintenance. Mr. Bellofatto is concerned that the tomb will not be maintained after 2007 and is seeking assistance in continued occupancy of Alexander Wheelock Thayer in his tomb. Mr. Bellofatto is willing to provide his personal help and collaboration in order to do something for A. W. Thayer, a person by whom he is deeply fascinated.

If anyone would like further information on Alexander, or has information or materials concerning Alexander Wheelock Thayer, please contact Luigi Bellofatto so that that material could be included in the long biography he is doing. His email address is: ibellofatto@hotmail.com and his postal address is:
Luigi Bellofatto
Via Puccini 2
20030 BOVISIO MASCIAGO (MI)
ITALY

Please address any postal mail exactly as it appears above to ensure it reaches Luigi.

Paul & August Thayer Iaccaci - Part II

American Aces of No. 20 Squadron RFC/RAF

By Dennis Gordon

Part I appeared in the Winter 2003 Issue, this is the final Part, which concludes the article.

Paul celebrated July 4th, American Independence Day, by downing three enemy aircraft. He would get three more enemy fighters, and Thayer one before the month was out.

Paul and Thayer's efforts were recognized in RAF communiqués for July, and both were subsequently awarded the British Distinguished Flying Cross.

Lieutenant Paul T. Iaccaci, D.F.C.

Thayer's award was promulgated in the *London Gazette* on 3 August 1918, as follows:

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS. Lieutenant A. T. Iaccaci, RAF (20 Squadron) "This officer has taken part in many engagements, and he and his observer have been most successful in destroying enemy machines. A resolute and skillful airman."

Paul's DFC citation noted that he was "A bold and successful fighter, who on four offensive patrols has accounted for six enemy aeroplanes: two he shot down himself and four were destroyed with the assistance of his observer. In these several encounters the formation in which Lt. Iaccaci was serving was engaged against heavy odds."

The actual awarding of their decorations would not occur until after the war. The Prince of Wales, on a sea cruise on the H.M.S. *Renown,* would meet Thayer and Paul on New York City's Hudson River and would present them with their medals.

From 5 August to 22 August the Iaccaci brothers were granted a well-earned Paris leave. The month of September belonged to Thayer as he ran up seven victories, all against Fokker D.VII aircraft. Paul made an admirable showing by destroying three Fokker D.VII fighters early in the month.

"Sometimes we would hit the enemy aircraft with front guns," Thayer said, "and finish him off with rear guns or visa versa. One time on September 27, we got two enemy aircraft at once, one with front guns and the other with rear guns. My logbook shows mostly "we got one" and not often "I got one" or 'Newland got one."'

By 6 September, Paul Iaccaci had accumulated 17 victories. On 8 September 1918, Paul was promoted to Captain and assigned as a flight commander to No. 48 Squadron, another F.2B fighter squadron. The highly successful brother team had been broken up.

Pressure was being applied to Thayer to join the U.S. Air Service, but he stayed on with 20 Squadron to help the new fliers gain experience. "We were having a hard time and a good many losses near the end," Thayer said. "When I left the squadron," he said, "there was not one man but Newland who was there when I had arrived."

On 9 September, No. 20 Sqdn. moved to Suzanne-sur-Somme to stay close to the retreating German lines. It moved again on 24 September. Meanwhile on 2 October, while on patrol, Captain Thayer Iaccaci suffered an injury to his right eye. The injury ended his combat flying after 295 air hours with 20 Squadron. During that time, he had flown 154 patrols in 17 different machines. He was credited with 17 victories, although his logbook indicated an additional eight listed as "out of control." Credit for the Iaccaci brothers' victories must rightly be shared with their gunner-observers, since combat in a "Brisfit" was a team effort.

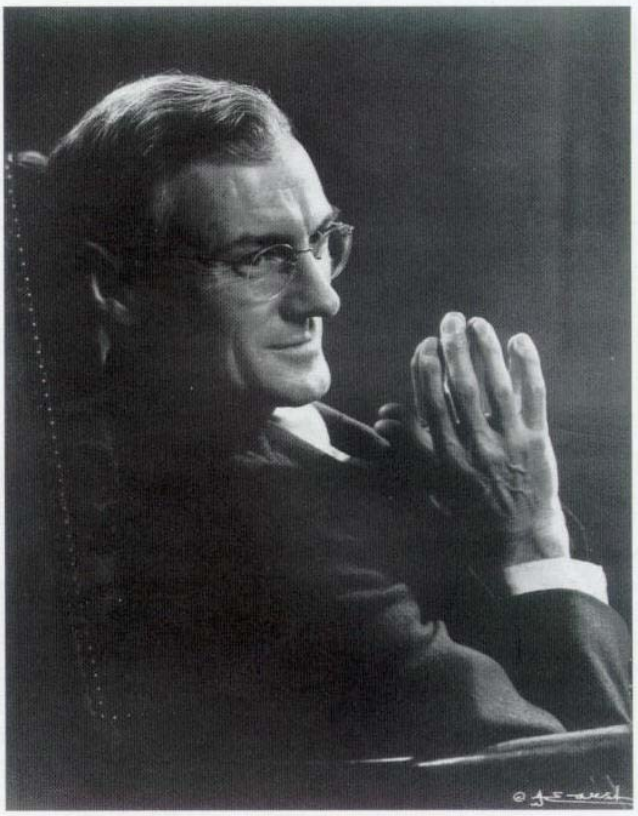
Thayer was sent to a hospital in England. As a result of the injury he lost some vision and was not allowed to return to combat. After leaving the hospital, he was posted in England as a pilot instructor where he remained until the end of the war.

Captain Paul Iaccaci was returned to England in late October and was briefly hospitalized. In December he sailed for the United States and arrived in New York City on 24 December. Both brothers

were discharged in 1919 and reinstated as U.S. citizens.

Following the war, the senior Jaccaci continued his occupation as art editor for *McClure's* and

Below right: August Thayer Iaccaci in civilian life. Photo by Yousuf Karsh. Courtesy Yousuf Karsh.



Scribner's magazines. He befriended the Spanish artist Vierge, and wrote the text for the book *On the Trail of Don Quixote,* which served as a showcase for Vierge's illustrations of the Cervantes novel. Jaccaci died of a cerebral hemorrhage at Chauteau Neuf-De-Grase, France on 22 July 1930.

Jaccaci's death again revealed that great bitterness between the parents, which had forced the sons to choose between them. During the family dispute, Paul remained with his mother while Thayer joined his father. The rift within the family even accounted for the difference in the spelling of the two sons last names, with Paul continuing with the spelling 'Iaccaci,' the way his grandmother had said was correct, while Thayer favored 'Jaccaci,' his father's spelling.

That deep rift between the parents which the sons had put aside during the war, became most apparent approximately one month after Auguste's death. When his will had been filed for probate, the senior Jaccaci revealed through the document his feelings toward Mabel Jaccaci and his son, Paul, by making his son August Thayer the chief beneficiary of an estate which contained $200,000 in assets. He left nothing to Paul and only a life annuity of $1,600 to Mabel, who was residing in Florence, Italy at the time. The bitterness from the separation eventually resulted in Mabel Jaccaci's death in a mental asylum in the United States. In her will she left $1 to her son August, which Paul personally delivered to him upon her passing.

Following World War One, Paul married Marie Louise Elkins of Philadelphia. Paul entered the banking business in New York and became an investment counselor and restaurant owner. The Paul Iaccacis eventually divorced. On 18 November 1938, Paul married Hope Norton in New York City. One daughter, Hope Thayer Iaccaci, was born of this union.

August Thayer Jaccaci married Elva Marguerite Spayer in 1919. He worked for a printer, and as a representative of an art service in New York City. In 1929, he joined the J. Walter Thompson Co. advertising agency. The Jaccacis were also divorced, and Thayer married Helen Jenkins in Maryland in 1934. A son, August Thayer, Jr., and a daughter, Abigail, were born of this union. Thayer remained with the J. Walter Thompson Co. for 31 years. For 20 of those years, he was vice-president in charge of the Eastman Kodak account. He was also an amateur photographer and good friend of Ansel Adams, Yousuf Karsh, and Edward Steichen, having introduced the latter to the world of advertising. Thayer developed and promoted the idea for the Kodak photo exhibit at Grand Central Station. He retired from Thompson in 1960, but remained a consultant to the company until 1964.

Both brothers were respected as compassionate, generous, warm-hearted men. For some time following the death of their parents, Paul and Thayer did not communicate. But with time their passions cooled, and while they never fully reconciled, they put much of their differences behind them.

Paul retired to his home in Hebron, New Hampshire. In 1963, he stated that his life's philosophy "had been to do all one can in life to help others and learn each day something to add to one's stature, practically, emotionally, and effectively."

Two years later Paul was seriously injured when a hot water heater exploded in his house, as he was attempting to re-light the pilot light. The heater exploded with such force that it lifted the house off its foundation. Paul was taken to Mary Hitchcock Hospital, Hanover, New Hampshire, suffering burns over 90% of his body. He died there at age 75 on 26 July 1965. He was buried in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Boston, Massachusetts.

August Thayer Jaccaci died of natural causes on 30 April 1980 in Madison, Connecticut at age 87. His ashes were inurned in the St. Andrew's Church memorial garden in Madison.

Little has been written about the World War service of Paul and Thayer Iaccaci until relatively recently. Part of the reason is that neither brother spoke of his experience, nor attempted to capitalize in any way on his war record. Thayer's son, Gus, recalls that his father only spoke to him on one occasion about his combat flying. His father told him that following a fierce engagement, he had landed his Bristol fighter on the squadron's airfield then had turned to congratulate his gunner, only to discover that part of the man's head had been blown away.

Thayer Jaccaci suffered a severe nervous breakdown approximately 20 years following the War's end. There is little doubt that it was directly related to his intense combat experiences. The ongoing suffering that he and many veterans experienced was another horrid legacy of the Great War.

Sources

Angelucci, Enzo and Paalo Matricardi, *World Aircraft:Origins World War I,* Berkshire, England, Sampson Low, 1977.

Bayer, Chaz, *For Valour The Air VC.s.,* London: William Kimber, 1978.

Hudson, James J., *In Clouds of Glory,* Fayetteville: The University of Arkansas Press, 1990.

Johns, Captain WE., *The Air VC.s.,* London: John Hamilton, LTD.

Harvard's Military Record In The World War. Boston: The Harvard Alumni Assoc., 1921.

Lewis, Peters. *Squadron Histories: R.F C., R.N.A.S. & R.A.F 19 12-59.* London: Putnam, 1959.

Noble, Walter, *With a Bristol Fighter Squadron,* London: Andrew Melrose, Ltd., 1920.

Princeton in the World War, Princeton University Press, 1932.

Shores, Christopher, Franks, Norman and Guest, Russell, *Above The Trenches,* London: Grub Street, 1990.

Smith, Peter, *Squadron Badges,* Great Britain: Balfour Productions

Franks, Norman & Bailey, Frank W., *Over The Front,* London: Grub Street, 1992.

Franks, Norman, Guest, Russell & Alegi, Gregory, *Above the War Fronts,* London: Grub Street, 1997.

New York *Times* July 24, July 25, August 22, 1930

Frank W. Bailey and Norman L.R. Franks. Combat Log No. 20 Squadron RFC/RAF. *Cross & Cockade Journal* U.S. Vol. 26, No. 1 Spring 1985 , pp.24-55.

Thayer Jaccaci logbooks via Abigail iaccaci Fearon.

Author correspondence with Harvard University, 23 Dec 1999.

Author interview with August Jaccaci, Jr., 20 Jan 1990.

Author interview with Thayer laccaci Lambrecht, 20 Jan 1990.

Author interview with Abigail Jaccaci Fearon 12 Feb 2000.

August Thayer Jaccaci correspondence and photos via Abigail Jaccaci Fearon and August Jaccaci, Jr., February-March 2000.

Endnotes

1 This article provides further details to the Iaccaci brothers' biography, most recently published as an article by James J. Hudson in *Cross & Cockade International,* Vol. 31, No. 4, 2000, essentially reprinted from his 1990 book, *In Clouds of Glory,* as cited in this article's *Sources.* Whereas that article drew heavily upon combat reports and RAF Communiqués, this article relies heavily upon pilot logbooks and personal interviews with Thayer Iaccaci and his close relatives. Where information contained within this article differs from that previously published, the author acknowledges those discrepancies and seeks to update the record with the new information. In this respect, OTF is not passing judgment regarding which version is more accurate, and the reader in encouraged to review the 'Sources' cited to gain a better perspective of the distinguished service careers of the Iaccaci brothers.

Meet the Author

Dennis Gordon lives in Missoula, Montana, and is an author and military historian. He received his MFA from the University of Montana. He has recently published in 1999 a volume of detailed biographies of the 269 men of the Lafayette Flying Corns. An earlier volume of his, *Lafayette Escadrille Pilot Biographies,* has become a standard work on the subject. Dennis is a frequent contributor to *Over The Front* and one can be sure that he is always working on something interesting to bring the lives of American aviators in the Great War to light. Dennis is married to Pauline, and they have five children.

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the "League of WWI Aviation Historians" Spring 2002 Quarterly magazine and was provided by Muriel & Barney Landry. This is the second and final part of this article, with 2 of the 18 pictures used. The article is reprinted with all due credits and source material listed.

In Memoriam
Jill Lyn (Thayer) Zarnoski

Jill Lyn (Thayer) Zarnoski. (20 June 1962 - 10 Feb 2004) The daughter of David Stanley & Betty Lucille (Clark) Thayer of Mt. Juliet, TN passed away after a long battle against Cancer.

She leaves behind her husband Joseph Zarnoski, Jr. of Petersburg, NJ; daughters Kiera Lyn (18) and Alexa Brielle (6) plus her son David Joseph (16). Plus sisters Nancy Diane (Scott) Miller of North Wales, PA, Sharyn Jean (Tim) Deal of Old Hickory, TN and Elaine Kay (Terry) Johnson of Mansfield, TX. And many Uncles, Aunts, Nieces, Nephews and Cousins.

Obituary
Marion Thayer

Marion Thayer was born on April 24, 1908 at Inman, Neb. He was the oldest of four children born to O. M. and Tinnie Belle Van Matre Thayer. Marion grew up in Elm Creek and graduated from high school in 1927. He attended Kearney State for two years and later transferred to the University of Nebraska in Lincoln where he received his degree in 1933. Marion taught rural school in the Elm Creek area before teaching at Stapleton, Farnam, and Arapahoe. He met Valeria Bednar while teaching at Farnam and they were married June 12, 1941 at Beatrice, Neb.

They moved to Grant, Neb., in 1942 and Marion taught vocal and instrumental music at Perkins County High School until his retirement in 1973. He taught for two semesters at Wheatland High School in Madrid, Neb., after he retired from Grant. Marion had maintained an active lifestyle after his retirement. He was preparing for bed Saturday night, March 2, 2002 when he suffered an apparent heart attack. He was taken to the Perkins County Community Hospital where he died.

Marion had been a member of the Grant Congregational Church for over 50 years and been active with the choir. He was a 50-year member of the Grant Masonic Lodge where he had served as the Worshipful Master. He was a charter member of the Nebraska Music Education Association and had been inducted into the Nebraska Music Educators Hall of Fame in 1993.

Marion is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Valeria; two sons, Gary and wife, Nina Thayer of Los Alamos, N.M., Russell and wife Crystal Thayer of Newton, Kan.; one daughter, Marlea Thompson of Imperial, Neb.; two grandchildren, Tamra and Timothy; one sister, Ruth Schulp of Newcastle, Wyo.; one brother, Roy Thayer of Woodburn, Ore.; other relatives and many appreciated former students.

Committal services were held on Wednesday, March 6 at the Odell Nebraska Cemetery with John Long officiating.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 8, 2002 at 2 p.m. at the Grant Congregational Church with Pastor John Keener officiating.

Bullock-Long Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Marion's lineage is: Marion[10] (Oren Mortimer[9], Elbridge May[8], Royal Olmstead[7], Jedediah[6], Micah[5], Jonathan[4], Josiah[3], Ferdinando[2], Thomas[1]) THAYER.

Lost and Found

by Suzanne Wood

In the Spring of 2002 TFA member and cousin, Suzanne Wood of Shrewsbury, MA was making plans to meet with our cousins in Braintree for our annual gathering. Then came the news that she had found her long lost father and would be spending that same week in Colorado with him. I asked her if she would like to share with us her compelling story, which she has graciously shared with us here. Suzanne is a direct descendant of Sally Vining[8] (Bela[7], Randall[6], Richard[5], John[4], Richard[3-2-1]) THAYER. Submitted by Patricia Thayer Muno.

When I was about twelve, my parents divorced. My father married again and had four children by his second wife, in addition to the four girls he had with my mother. I imagine that financial difficulties caused him to make the decision to leave the state with his second family. They left everything behind--house, furniture--everything. They took only themselves, their clothes and a few sentimental possessions. I now know that his mother had passed away just a couple of weeks prior to their leaving.

The year was 1966 and my second child--a son--had just been born. My husband called to give my dad the vital statistics and later told me that my dad sounded "strange" on the phone. He had said congratulations, but not much else--he didn't even tell us that my grandmother had just passed away. A few days later I learned that he and his second family had "disappeared." No one knew where they had gone. At first I felt shock, bewilderment and sadness, then many, many years of anger. I felt that he had deserted me twice.

Along about 1974 my mother wanted company while she attended a course in genealogy, and I was elected to accompany her. She wanted to trace her family history, and I began mine too. The Wood line was going to be a challenge as all I had was my father's birth certificate. He never knew his father because his parents divorced when he was an infant. I found his father and his grand-parents, then ran into one of the brick walls we all know so well. I put the Wood family aside to see where the Poole line would lead me. I found the Poole family had a long history in Weymouth, Massachusetts, and that I was also descended from the families of VINING, THAYER, TORREY and BATES as well as many other families who have long histories in Weymouth, Braintree and Hingham.

Other life priorities soon made me put all my research in a box with a promise to get back to it soon.

Soon turned out to be about 30 years later, and now I had the Internet. It was through the Internet that I found my Wood roots on Prince Edward Island--along with lots of other roots. When I dusted off the box of research, I found that I had more information than I remembered. I had so much fun putting it all together. I gave each of my sisters a 3-ring binder last year for Christmas with their family history in it. That is, as much as I had found.

My mother had been telling me for over a year that I really should try to find my father. She thought he would enjoy the history I had put together. I was still harboring some anger, but at the same time I wanted to know if he was still living, and if so, where was he? Once I made the decision to find him, all the anger I felt just sort of melted away. If there was a chance to see him again, I wanted that chance.

A friend told me that the Social Security Administration had a letter forwarding service, and I kept that information on hand in case I needed it. Just before Christmas I hired a private detective to see if I could find him. I did not tell my sisters, but I did tell my mother. I didn't want to tell my sisters until I had something to tell -- be it positive or not. The detective didn't have much luck. He told me there are over 600 men in the US with the exact same name as my father, but none with the birth date I had given him. I did not have his SS number, so we could not trace him that way. I knew tracing the girls from his second marriage would be fruitless because they probably were married and would nave new names. I knew that there was also a son, so I tried to get his birth certificate. What a nightmare! My first try obtained a certificate for the wrong person. The second try netted a big nothing. My next step was to go to the town hall to look for it myself. Since I wasn't having any luck with the detective, I decided to use the SS Administration's letter forwarding service. I won't go into the details of how that works. However, I mailed the letter on April 10th [2002].

Along about the same time that I hired the detective, I found some Wood cousins that I never knew I had. Since my dad never knew his father, he didn't know that he had a half brother and half sister. I found the children of his half sister, and one of them still lives fairly locally. A few weeks after I mailed the letter to the SS Administration, I was talking to my new first cousin (Phyllis), and she asked me how my search was coming along. I explained what was happening and she offered to see if she could get the birth certificate I needed. She said she had to go to that town anyway the following week. The next week she called to say she had the certificate. I passed the information on to my detective, and a few days later he said he had "found them." No, he had not found my dad, he had found my half brother and his mother. Well, I thought, either my father is deceased or they are divorced. He could not get a phone number for my half brother, but he did have one for his mother. The detective said he would make the call for me. After a week, and no work for the detective, I called him. He had left several messages on an answer machine but had not received a return call. I told him that if he could give me the number I would make the call.

The next day -- with my heart pounding and a huge lump in my throat-- I tried to make the call. It took three times before I actually dialed the phone. I got her answer machine three times and hung up. I wanted to talk to her--not a machine. Finally, I gave in and left a message on the machine.

The next morning was Sunday and about 10:00 I answered my phone. The voice on the other end said, "Hi, this is Joyce Wood." We talked for over an hour and I was an emotional basket case. Yes, Dad is still around, but his health is quite precarious. He had triple by-pass surgery last summer (2001) and they almost lost him again in January (just after I hired the detective). Somehow he pulled through that, but he is on kidney dialysis three times a week. Joyce goes to take him out to breakfast every other Sunday--and this was her Sunday. She would tell him that morning.

She called me again that night to say that he was very excited as were the other girls--they hadn't reached their brother yet. I was surprised that they (the 2nd four children) knew all about his first four children. They knew about us and they had seen pictures of us too. Dad had kept a small photo album all those (36) years.

My sisters were the next to know. After lots of conversation, a trip was planned--sooner rather than later--and my oldest daughter, my youngest sister and myself were going to Denver.

What a week that was! Our first meeting was at the airport--I would not have recognized him--but he recognized me.... There were big hugs and lots of tears. We spent the week in Colorado at my half sister's house and Dad stayed over a few nights--whenever he didn't have dialysis the next day. We didn't talk much about past occurrences--at least not with him. We let the past stay in the past. However, my half sister and I did share many tears late into several evenings. We met all our half siblings. (Well, for my daughter they are her aunts and uncle--two of whom are younger than she is.) My daughter and her grandfather became friends immediately, joking back and forth. For me, it was great to see him, if a little strange. I remembered him as a strong, virile young man of about 40--now he's 78 and in frail health. Bittersweet, I think, is the best way to describe my feelings.

I mailed my first Father's Day card in 36 years this year, and soon will mail his first birthday card in 36 years.

After the trip my daughter said to me, "Don't you wish you had done that a long time ago"? I said "yes, I do, but I'm glad I did it before it was too late."

Here is a little Thayer story that my Dad related to me:

The year would have been sometime between 1933 and 1937--the years he lived in Farmington, New Hampshire--he would have been somewhere between the ages of 8 and 11.

It was late evening and it was dark. Dad and his friends were out on the lawn of the Thayer Estate in Farmington, NH. They were busily and quietly (so they thought) looking for night crawlers. Apparently, they weren't as quiet as they thought they were and soon "Old Lady Thayer," as he called her, came out on her porch. She called to the boys and asked what they were doing out there on her lawn.

They said "Oh, nothing, just looking for night crawlers." "Well," she said, "that's all right, just don't dig anything up." The boys answered, "Ok, we won't," and had a good chuckle for themselves. He also recalled that it was during the depression and he was in awe of the fact that she had a "big Lincoln car and a chauffeur."

The Thayer Estate is still in Farmington, and still spectacular looking. I snapped a photo to send to my Dad, as I know he can't make the trip back to New Hampshire. I also went looking for the school he remembered attending. However, it burned down in the early 80's. I was able to obtain a picture of the school to send him, thanks to the helpful librarian in Farmington. Oh yes, there was also a picture of an "Annie Thayer" in the book I purchased. I'm not sure if this the "Old Lady Thayer" he referred to or not, but it does seem likely. [Patricia's note: According to the 1930 census, the widow Annie Maria (Edgerly) Thayer (born about 1870) and her son, James Edgerly Thayer lived in the house on 65 North Main Street known as "the Bunker House." It was constructed in 1883 on land inherited by Mary Ann (Ham) Bunker from her grandfather, John Ham. In 1913 the house was purchased by Annie and her husband, Elmer Francis[8] (Noah Blanchard[7], Nicholas[6], Demetrius[5], James[4], Ephraim[3], Shadrach[2], Thomas[1]) THAYER. A photo of Annie and this remarkable Victorian mansion is in the book ***Images of America - Farmington,*** Farmington Historical Society --1997**.**]

Here's another Thayer story Dad just related to me. He told me there were actually two Thayer estates in Farmington. The second estate was at the top of the hill off the center of town and it was a huge brown house. There was a big hand pump and a trough for watering horses at the front of the property. On Halloween he and his friends liked to drag the horse trough up to the house and put it on the front porch. He said this was no easy feat, as the trough was extremely heavy. He had a great laugh remembering their Halloween prank. [Patricia's notes: This was likely the home of Walter H.[10] (Edward Franklin[9], William Simonton[8], Stephen[7], Abraham[6], Zachariah[5-4], Nathaniel[3], Richard[2-1]) THAYER who lived on 61 South Main. Walter was a ladies apparel clothier in 1930.]

Thanks Suzanne for sharing these stories with us! Submitted by Patricia Thayer Muno.

Tigger's Family Tree Search: What We Can Learn From Him

By Michael John Neill

I recently saw The Tigger Movie. The theme of the movie, Tigger's search for his family, got me thinking about genealogy. I won't reveal the results of Tigger's search, but the movie actually pointed out several things worth remembering when researching people instead of stuffed animals.

1) Tigger did not start his search at home. He began his search by bouncing through the forest looking for his family tree.

Every search for genealogical information should begin with sources available in your home or the homes of your parents and relatives. There are times when sources in the home are the only ones that provide certain pieces of information. Pictures, clippings, cards, family Bibles, certificates, and other such items may provide significant clues to family origins. Locating these items may save countless hours of searching in official records. Seasoned genealogists should also determine if there are any extended family members who might have similar memorabilia. Third, fourth, or even more

distant cousins may have family keepsakes or mementos crucial to your search.

2) Tigger thought his family tree was all in one place.

Genealogists with a little experience under their belt realize that the search takes place one ancestor or family at a time. There's not one CD, Web site, or published book that contains our entire ancestry. Even if there was such a beast, we should document the statements it makes.

3) Tigger didn't analyze what he found.

When his friends came to Tigger's house dressed up as Tiggers, Tigger was understandably ready to accept them as part of his family. A quick analysis would have revealed that at least one of the "family members" was shaped like Winnie the Pooh. Tigger had hit a brick wall and was ready to accept the first close "match" that came along. No matter how tired, desperate, or frustrated we get, we must continue to analyze the new information that comes our way. Hastily accepting the first close match that comes along may result in wasted time and money. Information that seems to be too good to be true may be just that. Remember if it's shaped like a Pooh bear and walks like a Poor bear, chances are it is a Pooh bear.

4) Tigger jumped to a few conclusions.

Tigger assumed that almost anything "old" in his house was a clue to his past. We all make assumptions as a part of our research. Sometimes we have to shed the assumptions and realize they are incorrect, just like Tigger finally realized that the old piece of clothing might not hold a clue to his past.

5) Tigger talked to others.

It didn't help Tigger much, but talking to other genealogists about your family history research problems may help you solve them. Someone else may have worked on a similar problem or in the same geographic area and may be able to give sound advice. If nothing else, just explaining the problem to someone else may help you solve it. Your local society is an excellent place for this discussion.

6) Tigger learns something about himself while searching for his family.

For many genealogists, learning about our family teaches us something about ourselves in the process. We may learn the origin of certain customs or traditions. In the worst-case scenario, we may find out how bad choices had a long-lasting impact on our ancestor's lives and that of their families.

7) Tigger realized that friends can be just as important as family.

This was a recurring theme throughout the movie and one that any genealogist would do well to remember. Tigger relied on his friends when he could not find his family and perhaps our ancestors did the same thing. Maybe your ancestor moved from Indiana to Nebraska because a former neighbor had settled there. He might have had no relatives there at all, just a former neighbor. Maybe your immigrant Irish ancestor came to Chicago because a friend from his village had established himself there and told his friend he'd help him get settled. Analyzing friends and neighbors can solve some problems. This procedure does not always work and a full and complete analysis of the ancestor should be undertaken before extending the search to neighbors and acquaintances.

What are some ways to learn of your ancestor's neighbors and acquaintances?

a) Post-1850 census records provide the birthplace of everyone listed. If your Kentucky born ancestor is living in Missouri in 1850 near several other families from Kentucky, perhaps they came from the same county. Document your ancestor first, but if his records are silent about his Kentucky origins, try locating him by locating the Kentucky origins of his neighbors. You may find him in the same county where you find them.

b) County histories might list where the early settlers of an area were from. If your family settled an area early, this may be a clue to your family's origins.

c) Witnesses on your ancestor's wills, deeds and other records may provide the names of associates of your ancestor. Not all associates were friends of your ancestor.

d) Some old county plat books have a list of "subscribers" that includes their county or country of birth. Look at the individuals living in your ancestor's township and adjacent ones for people from the same area.

e) Military pension records of your ancestor may provide the names of comrades and fellow servicemen which may be helpful in learning more about the earlier years of your ancestor's life.

The Tigger Movie shows again the popularity of the search for one's past, albeit on a juvenile level.

Tigger's frustration while searching for his ancestors in the Hundred-Acre Wood is one most genealogists can sympathize with.

Good Luck.

[written by Michael Neill for Ancestry Daily News 3/7/2000 - used with permission.]

New Civil War Soldiers

Charles W. THAYER

Charles was a Civil War soldier. WI Civil War records: Thayer, Charles W., Union Artillery, Co. M, 1st Regiment, Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, enlisted 30 Aug 1864, mustered out 26 Jun 1865, res. Lake Mills, Jefferson, WI.

Charles was the son of Manley THAYER and Orissa THAYER and the husband of Sarah C. MC COURT. Manley Thayer's family moved to Lake Mills before 1850.

Charles THAYER, born about 1837, VT, the son of Augustus and Eliza THAYER (unplaced).

Charles enlisted as a private in the Civil War on 5 Aug 1862 in Company B, 18th Regiment Michigan, became a POW on 24 September 1864 at Athens, Alabama and was killed in an explosion on 27 April 1865 on the steamer "Sultana" on the Mississippi River.

Both Charles were discovered by Jerry Thayer in his research efforts and was submitted for publication by Patricia Thayer Muno. Thanks for this great information!

William Henry THAYER, born 12 Nov 1844 Petersburg, Dinwiddie, VA. He was the son of Henry H. THAYER and Nancy Ann BELCHER. William married about 1868 to Indiana CAMPBELL. He served in the Civil War, Lieutenant in Co. G, 41st Virginia Regiment in Civil War (Confederate).

His line: William Henry 9 (Henry H. 8, Sceva 7, Josiah 6-5, Nathaniel 4-3, Richard 2-1) THAYER.

Submitted for publication by Patricia Thayer Muno.

Julius B. Thayer was a soldier in the Civil War having served in L. C. Turner Post, No. 26, Cooperstown, NY. He was born 15 Mar 1825 in Cooperstown, Otsego, NY, the son of Ariel 7 (Jerijah 6, Zephaniah 5, William 4-3, Shadrach 2, Thomas 1) THAYER and Nancy PAGE.

Data submitted by Richard Allen Thayer Jul 2003.

Words from the President

I will probably go down in the records as the least active President TFA has had. Beginning with July last, I nearly died. Luckily a son recognized that I was not having a bad reaction to a bronchitis attack. After weeks of tests, problem located, heart not working right. If you want a thrill, watch your heart beat and miss and beat again in living color! Got most of this therapeutic, so I went in October for a Cardio Revision. Lasted about a week, and back to readjusting. By then I realized I needed help and asked other Board Members who took over quickly and helpfully. Just about thought I had my life on track, broke a tooth, had to undo the blood chemicals so I could get it pulled without bleeding to death. Up on and again, beginning to feel I was thinking and doing more, hit another road block mid-February. Down like a shot, into acute cardiac care unit with pneumonia. I am out of hospital and on the mend again, and God Bless those who are trying to help me look like a TFA President. At least I am keeping the chair warm!

Better news. Our Treasurer, Judith L Young Thayer, who broke bones in both feet and legs in Sept. is once again on her feet instead of wheels. She and Jerry are having the wheel chair scars removed from their house, and is enjoying getting into and out of their “town car.”

There has been a lot going on. Jim has the Plymouth tour plans together and is ready to lay them out on the table. Russ has the menus reviewed and accepted, and his reports should be in the TQ for you perusal, also.

The financial reports are all in order.

Respectfully submitted, Madora Allin Thayer Boyd, TFA President

Historian's Report

Greetings cousins, friends and Family Representatives! Traveling the genealogical wave is a true adventure. Sometimes we struggle against strong currents leading in various directions and other times the swell of information and missing dates, missing places and lost family members rush at us seeking to be found and identified.

Individuals from the UNPLACED file continue to take on identity and are moved over to the main THAYER file. Henry Jerome ("Jerry") Thayer in VA continues to work very hard in helping with this task. Also, Patty Kay Stuart in CA continues to find new information and forward along. While this is happening, I endeavor to continue to verify my related data and re-examine my detailed research notes. And although most of my research is completed and begging to find its way into final editing, new data continues to make its way and at times forms the missing link to my unplaced file of Thayers.

It has come to my attention that there are a few corrections that need to be mentioned regarding my Comprehensive Genealogy of the Thayer Family of America, Volume III, Descendants of Richard Thayer, Immigrant to America 1641, Through His Grandson, Richard 3-2-1. Please note the following:

On page ix--Acknowledgments:

Contributor Richard T. Koch resides in Frostburg, Maryland, NOT Frostburg Mississippi. (The letters on my keyboard wore of years ago!!)

On page 4, the cross-referencing for Zebulon THAYER (third child of Benjamin THAYER and Margaret CURTIS) should read +202 and <see page 23> and NOT +775 and <see page 4>.

This likely happened because I had to manually manipulate some of the families in order to be sure that they followed the PATERNAL line only. Apparently something got missed in my cutting and pasting. I tried to do spot checking to make sure everyone was mentioned correctly in the cross-referencing, but apparently missed this one.

On page 121, the death date for Theodocia M. FOWLER is in error. She died 5 Nov 1980 in Texas as Theodocia WOLFE. The "4 Jan 1913" death date occurred because two people with such an uncommon name both at one time resided in the state of California!

My apologies for any inconvenience caused by these and any other errors. I request that my readers inform me of noted errors so that mention can be made for future reference. Volumes I, II and III of the Comprehensive series are now available at Braintree Historical Society.

As many of you know, I am focusing on Volume IV, the second volume on the descendants of the Immigrant, Richard Thayer. This task is proving to be very challenging as this family line tends to intermarry more than others and I face the same problem of manually manipulating so that the genealogy follows the paternal line of descent. All in all, everyone's patience is appreciated.

Here's wishing all a very happy, healthy and productive spring!

Patricia Thayer Muno
Thayer Family Historian
3618 North 225 East
North Ogden, UT 84414-2762

Membership Report

We currently have 410 members paid up for 2004. If your dues are not paid up please do so soon. If you

are not paid up by April 1 this will be your last Thayer Quarterly!!

Keep you mailing address current with the Membership Chairman. As the post office does not always forward 4th class mail, which our Quarterly is mailed as, you may miss your Quarterly, even if you have left your forwarding address with them.

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members and encourage anyone, including new members, to consider becoming involved in TFA. If you would like to volunteer even just a little of your time please let our president, Madora Boyd, know at MatBoyd1924@aol.com, or me, Clint Thayer at ClntThayer@aol.com

Brand, Thayer P. & Lillian M., Paoli, IN
Parker, Frances Elizabeth Skilling, Centennial, CO
Plewe, Monica Weidner, Cortez, CO
Alan R. Thayer, San Ramon, CA (joins Lynda J. Thayer Smith in Family Membership)
Thayer, Bruce Errol & Karen, Fairchild, WI
Thayer, Franklin Nathaniel, Lincoln, CA
Thayer, Lynn Elizabeth, Enumclaw, WA
Thayer, William L. & Katrina, Carthage, MO
VanDyke, Dorothy Louise Skilling, Englewood, CO

Please notify the Membership Committee if you are aware of any errors in your record. Also, if I have missed anyone in this list let me know.

Clint (Ralph Clinton, Jr.) Thayer, Membership Chairman.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

From the Bylaws of the Thayer Families Association (1999):

ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended at the Annual Meeting of the Association, or a Special Meeting called for that purpose, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, providing the proposed Amendment or Amendments have been published in the Thayer Families Quarterly at least 60 days prior to the Meeting.

At the Thayer Families Association Annual Meeting and Reunion in 2003 a motion was put before the membership of the TFA to amend its bylaws.

The motion to amend the bylaws put before the membership in June 2003 was not the same motion to amend the bylaws that was published in the Spring 2003 Thayer Quarterly.

Therefore, ***no valid motion was made at the 2003 meeting, and the vote to amend the bylaws in 2003 is null and void.*** The bylaws as drawn up, voted on, and passed by the membership in 1999 are still in force.

I take full responsibility for having allowed this confusion, and I apologize.

Albert Thayer Morton,
Past President, TFA (2002-2003)

Change of Address Form

If you will be moving in the near future and have your new address, please clip this out or photo copy and mail to the Membership Chairman, Clint Thayer:
Thayer Families Association
346 Washington St. PMB #310
Braintree, MA 02184
(or email data to: clntthayer@aol.com)

Name:_____

Old Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____

Zip:_____

NEW Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____

Zip:_____

From the Editor…

The response to the Thayer Headstone Reference Supplement A has been great! Even as I am filling orders for those books, new material continues to come. I am even backlogged on the new material. As I get time, I enter that data into the next supplement, B, which should be out around September of 2004. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this project!

And every book that is sold, TFA receives a donation. So far, just under $200 has been sent to TFA for the General Fund.

The latest work I have produced, in a joint effort with Al Thayer Morton, is the electronic back issues. We have used various methods, including electronic scanning and a whole lot of manual typing to recreate every issue in electronic format. The issues are in PDF format and the entire set of issues, **43 issues (including this issue), from May 1993 to Spring 2004, are available on CD-ROM!**

This CD-ROM (you must use a computer to access it) is available for $20 from the Editor at the mailing address on the last page. For this issue, I have included an order form for the Back Issue CD. The back issue CD, as well as the Headstone Reference Books, can be conveniently ordered via the Internet from our website, www.thayer.genealogist.net

TFA receives $17 for every CD sold, $3 is used for materials and shipping of the CD!

The Summer Reunion is coming together and I am sure it will be a good time! I, unfortunately, will not be able to attend due to commitments with the Navy.

I will be providing Al Thayer Morton 10 sets of the Headstone Reference, and 10 Back Issue CD-ROMS for door prizes at the reunion.

I am working on another project, and am hoping it will be "unveiled" at the summer reunion.

Stories Needed

Stories are always welcome, and needed in order to maintain your newsletter. Please consider sharing a Thayer related family with the rest of your family. Submit completed stories to the Editor at the address listed on the back of this newsletter or email them. Feeling timid? Just send the information and I will write the article for you. *Editor*

Membership Form

Please complete this form indicating if you are a New or Renewal Single Membership or New or Renewal Family Membership. Enclose the appropriate check or money order made payable to Thayer Families Association.

Please check one: **Annual Dues $15.00** New Single Membership_____ Renewal of Single Membership_____
Annual Dues $25.00 New Family Membership_____ Renewal of Family Membership_____
Please check one: **PAPER Issue mailed to you _____ ELECTRONIC Issue emailed to you _____ BOTH _____**

Note: A Family Membership consists of two adults of the same household (husband and wife, sisters and brothers, or any combination of two persons) If you wish to pay for more than one year, multiply the number of years times the amount.

First member name:_____

Second member name:_____

Number of years desired:_____ X Appropriate Annual Dues ($15 or $25) = Total: _____

Address:_____

City, State, Country and Zip:_____

Email address:_____

If this is a NEW membership, name of person referring you:_____
Please mail the completed form and dues to: Thayer Families Association
346 Washington St. PMB #310
Braintree, MA 02184-4702

Thayer Families Association

14th Annual Meeting & Reunion
to be held at Thayer Academy, Braintree, Massachusetts
Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26, 2004

Registration Form

FRIDAY: Bus Tour to Plimouth Plantation: Departs Thayer Academy at 1:00 PM and will return to Thayer Academy at 6:00 PM, $21 for adults, $18 for students up to age 18. Prepaid reservations required.

SATURDAY:
Buffet Luncheon at Thayer Academy, 12:00 Noon-1:00 PM, $12 per person. Prepaid reservations required.

Buffet dinner at Thayer Academy, starting at 6:00 PM, $25 per person. Prepaid reservations required.

Full name:_____ email:_____

Guest/Spouse attending:_____

Street Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

PLEASE INDICATE WHO WILL BE ATTENDING EACH EVENT AND MEAL BY NAME:

_____

_____

adults for the Friday Bus Tour:_____ @ $21 each; amount enclosed $_____ (required)

students for the Friday Bus Tour:_____ @ $18 each; amount enclosed $_____ (required)

for the Saturday buffet luncheon:_____ @ $12 each; amount enclosed $_____ (required)

for the Saturday buffet dinner:_____@ $25 each; amount enclosed $_____ (required)

PLEASE SEND CHECKS AND RESPOND NO LATER THAN **JUNE 1, 2004** TO:

Thayer Families Association
346 Washington Street PMB #310
Braintree, MA 02194-4702

In order to make this an enjoyable time for everyone we need as much advance notice as you can give us. Please send your reservations, and let us know your plans for the tour and events as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!

Thayer Quarterly Newsletter
Back Issue CD-ROM

Please fill in all information, enclose check, and mail to the address below. Please make check payable to Rodney Lee Thayer.

Back Issues contained on the CD-ROM are 43 issues (including this issue), from May 1993 to Spring 2004, are available on CD-ROM!

For every Back Issue sold, TFA receives a $17.00 contribution to the General Fund! The $3 pays for materials and shipping.

Rodney Lee Thayer
Editor, Thayer Quarterly
PSC 473 Box 1837
FPO, AP 96349-1837

MAILING INFORMATION, please print clearly

Full Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

_____

City, State:_____

Country, ZIP/Postal Code:_____

QTY:_____ **X** UNIT PRICE: $20.00 = TOTAL ENCLOSED:_____

Price includes shipping!

Thank you for your order.

Volume III Descendants of Richard Thayer
Immigrant to America 1641
Through His Grandson, Richard 3-2-1

Please make check payable to Braintree Historical Society.

Thayer Book Order
Braintree Historical Society
31 Tenney Rd.
Braintree, MA 02184-6512

MAILING INFORMATION, please print clearly
Full Name:_____

Mailing Address:_____

_____

City, State:_____

Country, ZIP/Postal Code:_____

Cost of Vol. III is $60.00 plus $4.50 shipping.

QTY:_____ **X** ($64.50) = TOTAL ENCLOSED:_____

Thank you for your order.

THE THAYER QUARTERLY
RODNEY LEE THAYER, EDITOR
346 WASHINGTON ST. PMB #310
BRAINTREE, MA 02184-4702

CONTACTING THE TFA

www.ThayerFamily.com

For all official business with the TFA, please write the Secretary, Albert Thayer Morton:

Thayer Families Association
346 Washington St. PMB #310
Braintree, MA 02184-4702
Email: thayerATM@aol.com

For genealogical queries, or to find a Family Representative of a particular family, please write:

Patricia Thayer Muno
Thayer Family Historian
3618 North 225 East
North Ogden, UT 84414-2762
Email: HJThayer@aol.com

Please include an SASE if you need a reply.

The Thayer Quarterly © (copyright 1994-2004, all rights reserved) is the official newsletter of the Thayer Families Association. Article selection and editorial is at the discretion of the Editor and may not reflect views of the TFA, its Officers, Directors, or members. Issues are mailed the first week of the month as follows: Winter (Dec); Spring (Mar); Summer (Jun); Fall (Sep). Back issues are available from 1994 to present; some may be a photocopy (Spring 2000 to present is available on CD-ROM in electronic PDF format, please specify paper or CD when ordering). Cost is $2.50 each for members, $5 each for non-members, checks only, payable to TFA. (TFA, 346 Washington St. PMB #310, Braintree, MA 02184-4702). A cumulative index, containing every occurrence of a name that has appeared in the newsletter (prior to the current issue) is available for $10 to the above address.

ARTICLE SUBMISSION: Your articles, letters to the editor, and comments regarding content are vital to the TQ. Photographs with a light background are appreciated, and can be returned, undamaged, if requested. Digitized photos sent via the Internet are also welcomed. Send typed articles to the TFA address or email the editor at thayer@genealogist.net with an attached file containing the article. Your articles and submissions may be edited (respectfully) for length and readability. Please provide sources, if applicable. Any topics that are of general interest to members are encouraged, and articles written by the editor at your suggestion, or from material you provide, will be credited to you. Deadline for submission to the Summer Issue is June 30th.