



Thayer Quarterly

A QUEST FOR YOUR HERITAGE

September, 2017

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AUTUMN

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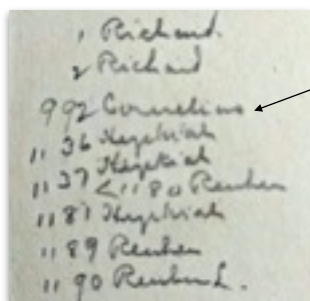
Watercolor still life painting by American artist Ellen Bowditch Thayer Fisher (1847 - 1911). <http://viola.bz/botanical-paintings-of-ellen-thayer-fisher/>

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

It's hard to believe that the Fall season is already upon us. Thank you for your readership! In this issue, you will find a variety of stories to hopefully pique and fuel your interest in our collective past. I strive to provide accurate information, based on your input, online research and references. It is intriguing to follow a thread, unravel it and see where it leads. Sometimes there is a surprise at the end, as in the story about Ellen Bowditch Thayer Fisher. What started as looking at Abbot Handerson Thayer's siblings led to the discovery that he and sister Ellen sometimes collaborated on artwork, and that sometimes his signature and hers both present on her work.¹ Had I found an example of this, it would be included on page 5. Because I did not, I will simply tell you that examples may be out there, waiting to be seen. The Smithsonian Archives have a trove of information, which also led me to discover that Abbot's niece Eleanor Fisher Grose was also an artist, as noted in his papers. I included a portrait of her, done by Abbot, in mother Ellen's story.

When I first started using Family Tree Maker in 2000, to supplement my father's Grandfather's and Great-Aunt's research, I cast a wide net across the Internet and found out how easy it is to misinterpret seemingly factual nuggets. Since that time, detailed information has become more plentiful, and I find the Find A Grave website extremely useful (however not without errors). When you send your stories, add as much detail as you possibly can, and I will faithfully preserve your details and bring them to life.

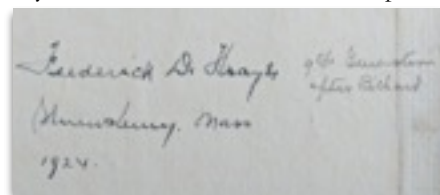
In our family copy of A Thayer Memorial, in my Great-Grandfather's hand, he wrote down his lineage back to Richard. Except there was an error, perpetuated for generations, one that Patricia deftly corrected. Once an error is "out there" it is very difficult to retract. We are very fortunate to have so much information at our fingertips in this new Digital Age, which our ancestors would surely have found fascinating! Happy reading and researching!



Nathaniel, not Cornelius



My Great-Grandfather's book inscription:



Rev. Frederick Daniels Thayer,
Frederick Daniels Thayer, Jr., and
Frederick Daniels Thayer III (my
father). Circa 1947.

¹ <http://viola.bz/botanical-paintings-of-ellen-thayer-fisher/>

Errata

A reader wrote to me regarding Cousin Jeffrey: The Great Contest and Beyond, Summer 2017 (Vol 25, issue 2): "without the generation numbers, you might assume that Jeffery is a descendant of the Thayer immigrant Richard. This is not the case. In this lineage Nathaniel(1) is the immigrant and William and Richard are ancestors that did not leave England." Please take note. Provide as much detail in your stories as you can; will publish as provided.

Cheers to the Season!

Larissa Thayer Cullen, TQ Editor



Thayer Families Reunion
June 28 - July 2, 2018
Join us in Bloomington, MN
Meet-Mix-and-Mingle
with your "somehow cousins"
look for information in this issue
www.thayerfamilies.com / facebook: Thayer Families / Thayer Family Historian

Thayer Genealogy Day
Sunday, July 1, 2018
in Bloomington, MN
learn about your past
free workshops
free presentations
share your stories
free breakfast
free evening reception
start writing your family story

Open the Door to your Past

OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR PAST!

Historian's Report



The big news this quarter is the announcement that Volume VII of *A Comprehensive Genealogy of the Thayer Family of America* will be available in the next couple of months! This publishing project, is the result of a culmination of 44 year exhaustive endeavor to create and preserve a memorial to your Thayer family.

Volume VII follows the descendants of Isaac⁵ THAYER (abt 1672-Dec 1754) and his first wife, Mercy ROCKWOOD (abt 1672-18 Dec 1700). Isaac Thayer was the son of Ferdinando² THAYER, and the grandson of Thomas¹ THAYER, Immigrant to America 1637. Isaac Thayer and Mercy Rockwood were the parents of four children: i. Mercy (1693); ii. Isaac (1695); iii. Ebenezer (1696/97); and iv. Comfort (1699/1700).

Volume VII will be massive, near 900 pages! It also includes the information on the three generations of ancestors of Isaac⁵ Thayer from 1500 in Thornbury, Gloucestershire, England and fourteen generations of his descendants--to the present generation. It includes the genealogical information of near 3,800 Thayers, their spouses and children, in over 1000 families!

Isaac was married three times. In addition to his first wife, Mercy Rockwood, he married second in about 1704 to Mary _____ (abt 1680-1721). Her maiden name is unknown. Isaac and 2nd wife Mary had nine children. The third wife, Hannah WINTER, whom he married 26 Sep 1772, was the widow of Noah PECK. There were no children born to this union. All of Isaac Thayer's children were born in Mendon, Worcester, Massachusetts. The division of the superabundant descendants between his two wives was pretty much equal, requiring the need to split the descendants into two separate volumes. The descendants of Isaac Thayer and his second wife, Mary _____ will appear in Volume VIII, which will hopefully be available late 2018.

Here is a small sampling of some interesting facts relative to Volume VII:

- **Simeon Thayer** (1784-1856) was a poor man who went to Yates County, New York from Rensselaer County, NY. "He had but one dollar in money."
- **David Thayer** (1786) had a "wandering disposition" which persisted in his old age.
- **Hannah Huntley, wife of Elijah Thayer** (1753-1820) was poor, deaf and blind. (I can relate to that!)
- **Seth Thayer** (1786-1854) "had the honor of loading the first boat and having it locked from the Hudson River into the Erie Canal, in 1824."
- **Sarah Emeline Thayer** (1839-1888) was a poor woman who never married. She was run over by Railroad cars at the age of 49.
- **Ebenezer Thayer** (1781-1848) owned the Old Tavern Farm that was featured on a past television episode of *If Walls Could Talk*.
- **John Thayer** (1814-1890) was a farmer who was killed by his bull at age 75.
- **Jonas H. Thayer** (1822-1863) died of sunstroke while fighting in the Civil War.
- **Eli Thayer** (1831-1862) died of Consumption as a soldier in the Civil War.
- Civil War soldier, **Aretua T. Thayer** (1840-1863), survived the battle of Gettysburg, but died a few months later from hardships experienced while in the Army.
- Civil War soldier, **Cyron Gilbert Thayer** (1842-1863), died of disease at Occoquon, Virginia.
- Civil War soldier, **William Allen Thayer** (1837-1906) returned from the war and established a butter tub manufactory in Cady's Falls, Vermont.
- Civil War soldier, **Chauncey Rice Thayer** (1833-1898) was orphaned at 10/11, and later became a Captain for many years on the Great Lakes. His son, **Chauncey R. Thayer Jr.** (1867-1925) followed in his father's footsteps and, as one of the youngest captains on Lake Michigan as Captain of the tug boat "Artic."
- Civil War soldier, **George W. Thayer** (1834-1862) died in a hospital while at Knoxville, Tennessee.
- Revolutionary War soldier **John Thayer** (1756-abt 1823) was discharged at West Point by General George Washington.
- **Benjamin Thayer** (1781-1821) drowned in the Mohawk River.
- Harness maker, **William Shafter Thayer** (1829-1909) was the inventor of a coffin hoist which lowered coffins into graves.
- Both **Charles Lafayette Thayer** (1848-1878) and was killed by a train.
- Read the remarkable story of how **Phineas Chauncey Thayer** (abt 1821-1895) fell headfirst into a well at age five.

Read the interesting story of **Simeon Martin Thayer** (1841-1918), State Representative, Real Estate dealer, builder and original owner of the Fairlawn Mansion in Superior, WI in an addendum devoted to his story. For personal reasons, he sadly changed his THAYER surname to his mother's maiden name, PATTISON! These and hundreds of other interesting and compelling stories, photos and illustrations (over 300!) will make for some fascinating reading to share with your families. The book contains sixteen (so far) addendums!

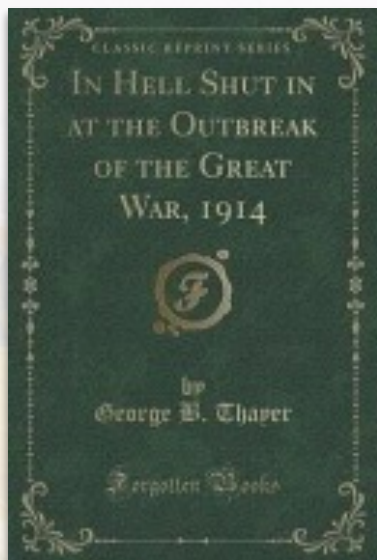
- See Addendum A for additional information on immigrants **Thomas¹ Thayer** (1596-1665) and wife **Margery Wheeler**. Includes Thomas Thayer's 1664 will.
- See Addendum B for **Ferdinando² Thayer's** (1625-1712) compelling story.
- See Addendum C for the will of **Isaac³ Thayer** (abt 1672-1754).
- See Addendum D for one of many accounts of the remarkable artist, descendant **Minerva Teichert** (1888-1976).
- See Addendum E for an account of **Reuben Thayer's** (1747-1839) family during the Revolutionary War period by his daughter Mary.
- See Addendum F to learn some interesting facts regarding "General" **Bezaleel Thayer** (1795-1875), Author of the 1874 Thayer Genealogy.
- See Addendum G for information about the dreaded **Andersonville Prison** and at least three of our Thayer kin who were held as prisoners there.
- See Addendum H for more on **Simeon Martin Thayer (Pattison)** (1841-1918), State Representative, Real Estate dealer, builder and original owner of the Fairlawn Mansion in Superior, WI.
- See Addendum I for **Ezra Thayer's** (1793-1862) family.
- See Addendum J for Civil War soldier **Asahel Thayer's** (1816/1821-1862) story.
- See Addendum K for information on chef and author, **Edith (Thayer) Latimer** (1887-1890).
- See Addendum L for **George Harris, Henry George and John Dempsey Thayer** family funeral and obituary descriptions.
- See Addendum M for **Frank B. Thayer** (1890-1965) tragic Train Accident
- See Addendum N for short biography of educator **Douglas Heal Thayer** (1929-).
- See Addendum O for story of **Hollister Baker Thayer's** (1806-1898) Old Tavern Farm Inn.
- See Addendum P for an account of the tragic 16 May 1874 "Mill River Flood" in Massachusetts, and the two young children of **Edwin Francis Thayer** (1846-1922) who drowned in the "Mill River Flood" in Massachusetts. A total of 81 individuals all drowned that fateful day.

My task as the Thayer Family Historian, at times has been a challenging endeavor. Why? Because each family and each individual in our remarkable family requires special and detailed research to assure that each of their records are correct. This can be quite a daunting task where there is more than one individual with the exact same name, born the same year in the same state! There have been several of these puzzles for me to figure out. Other researchers have mismatched their records and family connections, which have persisted to this day, confusing family members and complicating information on their descendants.

I have been very anxious about all our dear cousins who have endured all these recent horrific natural disasters and burdensome medical conditions and wish you each to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers! I'm grateful to my Thayer Family Historian's Facebook group, where our Thayer descendants come together offering kind messages of love and encouragement to our cousins far and wide. To each: please be well and keep safe!

Patricia

HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE, WITH AUTHOR AND SUBJECT: GEORGE BURTON THAYER



"Wednesday afternoon, about two o'clock, the explosion came. I was about six miles from the top of the pass, and was beginning to feel a little tired. On ahead a short distance, in front of a small hotel, a group of some fifty Swiss soldiers were standing around. When I came within speaking distance, more to take a short rest than anything, I halted. As before, I began the conversation by poking myself in the stomach. Then I told them who I was. 'Tell me,' I said to him hurriedly, 'what is the news?' One of them soon replied in good English. 'What, haven't you heard?' he replied, with an air of wonder, looking upon me as one who must have just arrived from some other planet. 'Why, Germany has declared war against Russia and against France and is going through Belgium to get at France. The French, with a million men, are ready to come through near Bale, on our frontier and the Italians are likely to try and come up through this pass. And last night England declared war against Germany.'

That was the news. The sound of the explosion, which shook the earth five days before, had just reached me. Aside from the sound of the drum and the sight of the bustling uniforms at Chamonix on Sunday and the two small squads of soldiers at the stone bridge the next day, little had occurred to cause me to listen to anything but my longings for more mountain climbing. To be sure, the departure of the eldest son, with his gun and heavily packed knapsack, made me surmise Switzerland was possibly beginning to mobilize, but the only outward indication of such precautions was an occasional soldier or two stationed at the railroad bridges and tunnels. Beyond that I saw nothing in the lives or homes of the people into which I entered that was at all warlike. I do remember, at the top of one pass, when the apparent proprietor of the small hotel there reached home after a long climb up from

Martigny, I did notice his whole family hurried out to meet him and gathered about the wagon, eager to learn something, some news. From all this and more I was shut out. Not a newspaper I could read had I seen since Saturday, August 1st, and then a copy of an early edition of the Daily Mail, printed, of course, the day before. At the hotel at Chamonix the guests all left on Sunday and since then I had been perambulating through a most delightfully mountainous country, but one in which I could gain little news if I had tried. To be frank, I was so little concerned I didn't try. Possibly the obliging and considerate Swiss officer at the stone bridge might have told me something, if I had asked, "

This book is available in the Public Domain and you may download and read it in its entirety by searching its title, or visit this link: <http://tinyurl.com/y8kjs6e>



"I HAVE SPOKEN OF THE HOGS AND PIGS THAT ARE SEEN ALL ALONG THE ROADSIDE THROUGH OHIO AND INDIANA. The numerous sheep that are feeding along the highways show some sense by simply turning to one side to let me pass, and often bleating after me as I leave them behind as if they were sorry to have me go; but the pigs will start up and run along ahead, scaring all the others... until a drove of a dozen or fifteen are bobbing along and running into each other in their foolish attempt to get out of the way. Then they will all suddenly stop, stand perfectly still, and let me pass without flinching."
—George B. Thayer, *Pedal and Path Across the Continent* (1886)

George's book has been digitized by Brigham Young University. You may search for it online, or visit this direct link: <https://tinyurl.com/v9v789qj>

George Burton Thayer
May 13, 1853 - June 28, 1928
Find A Grave: <https://tinyurl.com/ybueqwr3>

For even more about George's adventures, look up [The Two-Wheeled World of George B. Thayer](#), by Kevin J. Hayes, published November 1, 2015 by UNP Nebraska.

EDITOR'S NOTE: NEXT YEAR MARKS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMISTICE DAY (REMEMBRANCE DAY IN CANADA). PLEASE SEND YOUR PHOTOS, STORIES AND MEMORIALS ABOUT LIFE DURING WWI, AND THOSE WHO SERVED, AS THE AUTUMN 2018 ISSUE WILL FOCUS HEAVILY ON THE HISTORIC CENTENNIAL OF THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION.

MEET ELLEN BOWDITCH THAYER FISHER, ARTIST & SISTER

by Larissa Cullen

Named for her mother, Ellen Bowditch Thayer (aka Nellie / Nelly) was born in Boston on April 16, 1847, to Dr. William Henry Thayer and Ellen Handerson Thayer. Like her younger brother Abbott, whom we know so well, Ellen was a talented artist and illustrator, specializing in botanical renderings. She was self-taught, working primarily in watercolor and gouache, and learned painting techniques from Abbott.

Ellen was raised in Boston, Woodstock, VT and Keene, NH. By 1867, the family moved to Brooklyn, NY, where she met Edward Thornton Fisher. They were married on June 30, 1869.

The couple lived in Brooklyn, and Ellen may also have rented a studio in New York City. They had seven children: Faith Huntington, b. Sept. 19, 1870; m. Rev. William W. Fenn, May 28, 1891. Henry Thayer, b. Nov. 27, 1872 ; d. Sept. 29, 1874. Edward Henderson [sic], b. Sept. 27, 1875 ; d. Jan. 29, 1876. Richard Thornton, b. Nov. 9, 1876 ; graduated from Harvard College, 1898. Margaret Thayer, b. Dec. 29, 1878; d. Jan. 12, 1880. Reginald*, April 15, 1882 ; d. July 14, 1882. Eleanor, b. at Lanesboro (Berkshire) Mass., Nov. 8, 1888, m. Laurence Grose. Died 1972.



Nellie and Abbott: the little artists, arm in arm

Ellen exhibited at the Brooklyn Art Association from 1867 to 1884 and in five exhibitions of the National Academy of Design from 1868 to 1880. In 1885, her work was shown at the Pennsylvania Academy. She was also an active contributor to the exhibitions of the American Watercolor Society, She also enjoyed success designing illustrations for L. Prang & Co. Greeting Cards, where she was under contract from 1884-1887. Louis Prang, "The Father of the American Christmas Card," was an active supporter of women artists, both commissioning and collecting artworks by women. Many of his lithographs featured works by female artists, such as the botanical illustration of Ellen Thayer Fisher. In 1881, his company employed more than one hundred women.

Ellen's work was exhibited at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair and Exposition.² She was one of the illustrators for Alice Ward Bailey's Flower fancies (1889), described as an "exquisite volume", "charming alike to the eye and to the mind". Her work is included in collections including the Heckscher Museum of Art, New York Public Library, the Boston Public Library, the Huntington Library and the Sellars Collection of Art by American Women in Indianapolis. Her work Poppies was included in the special exhibition Lines of Thought: American Works on Paper from a Private Collection (1996–1997) at the Florence Griswold Museum, Old Lyme, Connecticut. Her work Nesting Bird in Apple Blossoms is part of the United States Department of State cultural exchange program and was exhibited in Luxembourg in 2001. Her work Lady Slipper (1878) appeared in the 2015–2016 exhibition Go Girl at the Heckscher Museum of Art.

Edward and Ellen resided at Crestalbon Farm, Berkshire. Ellen Thayer Fisher died of a heart attack⁴ on October 15, 1911 in Lanesboro (Berkshire) Mass.

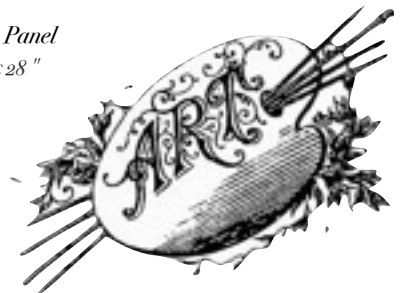


Watercolor box as one may have used in Ellen's time period. (Pinterest).

IN 1909, ELLEN WAS THE PRESIDENT OF PITTSFIELD ALLIANCE UNITY CHURCH IN PITTSFIELD MASSACHUSETTS³



Detail of Eleanor Fisher [sic] by Abbott Handerson Thayer 1908 Oil on Panel 35.9" x 28"



¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen_Thayer_Fisher

² <http://arcadiasystems.org/academia/cassatt6e.html>

³ From Manual 1909– National Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women, FREE ebook available on Google Play Books

⁴ My Berkshire, (page 90) by Eleanor F. Grose, printed 1957 by The Kraushar Press, Northampton, MA. Find Eleanor's memoir at this link for intimate details about her mother Ellen and other Thayers: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxaqv8o>

RICHARD JAMES THAYER – AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY †

The third in a series of stories written in 1990 by the father of James Loren Thayer

Let's go back as far as I can remember, to the days of my childhood and youth as I grew up on – what would now be considered – a very small farm, in Guilford, Vermont.



All eight grades were taught in the one-room school so we were given access to “higher” learning every day as the various subjects were studied and discussed for all to hear, at all grade levels. From early age we were made aware of the world at large via large wall maps pulled down on the walls, and with a pointer the teacher would define the areas of discussion.

Geography and History were an important part of early education – something which has been laid aside in modern education. Emphasis on spelling and proper language construction was used, as well as etiquette and manners and personal hygiene. Much has been lost in the basics of education and social concerns with the advent of centralized school. We are now separated, by age groups and/or academic skills, which tends to isolate us into cliques or peer groups. In the one room schools we learned to get along with each other at all levels of age. Would that the modern school systems of today consider readopting those aspects of yesteryear which truly embodied the “dear old Golden Rule days!”

July 22, 1926 – the day that started out as any hot summer day, with haying to be done, but would end in a tragedy which would forever affect the lives of the Thayer family. Dinner was hurriedly eaten as there was much hay to be brought into the barn before the ominous thickening black clouds would open up and wet down “bull rake” – which was about 4 feet wide and has a long curved double handle – to clean up the scatterings after the main bunch of hay was pitched onto the wagon. The western sky was rapidly getting ink-black and a loud rumbling noise – as that of many freight trains – was increasing in volume. I looked back just in time to upside

the dry hay that was raked and ready for Papa and brother Merrill to load. Barefooted, I was dragging a feet wide and has a long curved double handle – to clean up the scatterings after the main bunch of hay. The western sky was rapidly getting ink-black and a loud rumbling noise – as that of many freight trains – As the wind began to blow, Papa told me that I had better go to the house. As I ran toward the house, I see the entire load of hay roll from the wagon and after a few seconds saw brother Merrill emerge from the down pile of hay. The horses and empty wagon continued toward the barn. I had not been in the kitchen but minutes before Merrill came to the back door and called for help. My mother rushed out and she, Merrill, and sister Ruby were soon back again carrying Papa by his arms and legs and placing him on a bed. While unhitching the horses and leading them into the barn, Papa came by the empty silo, which was lifted from its foundation by the hurricane force of the wind and toppled upon Papa and the horse he was leading. The horse was killed and Papa died before a doctor could arrive. Due to the high winds, wires were down, cutting telephone communication, so Merill took our Jewett automobile and drove to Brattleboro for a doctor. This took several hours, as he had to frequently stop to remove limbs from the road and even bypass larger trees by driving off the road. My memory does not record if he ever contacted a doctor – I believe that he did not.



all drive the home. This went on for many years – at least all during my high school years – and when I got my driver's license on my 16th birthday we then delivered the laundry by car, removing the back seat and stacking the various shaped and sizes of baskets and cardboard boxes. seven miles to Brattleboro. At this time we would deliver the clean laundry and pick up the dirty laundry to take

In the summer Mama and I would pick “sword” or Christmas ferns for a florist. We would pick and tie them in bunches of 25 each, and place them on a “back-board” we fabricated to carry them on, or would carry them in a large clothes basket. For this we received 2 1/2¢ per bunch. On good days we could make \$2.00 or possibly a little more. However, one must consider that a loaf of bread at that time was less than 20¢ – a quart of milk was 14¢ – gasoline 25¢ a gallon, etc. – so \$2.00 was not to be “sneezed at.”

On the farm we still had 4 or 5 cows and a few calves, and a team of horses – no tractors. By standing on a box or stool I was able to put harnesses on the horses and do the necessary farm work, plowing and preparing the fields for planting, etc. For the first year or two after my father's death, Mama and I did all the haying. I was probably about 14 at that time. Brother Merrill graduated from high school in 1927 and soon signed on with a harvesters group and went to Alberta, Canada to work on the wheat harvest. When that was over he stayed on working in the lumber industry and then in the oil fields. Eventually he hired on as a truck driver and drove an oil drilling rig from Canada to Oklahoma where he worked in the oil fields for a year or two before joining the Air Force. He went to Hawaii with the Air Force, where he also got his college credits at the University of Hawaii. Eventually he finished college and basic training and came back to the States where he finished his Air Force training at Randolph Field in San Antonio, Texas. At some time during this period he got to come home for the first time since he had left in 1927 – many years had passed. He finished his term with the Air Force and then went to work for Eastern Air Lines as a pilot – soon to become Captain and was no doubt considered one of their best pilots, eventually flying the jets (DC-8) and continuing until his forced retirement at age 60 in 1969.





Meeting Minutes



THAYER FAMILIES ASSOCIATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2017, 6:00 P.M. EST

LOCATION: [HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/8094790671](https://zoom.us/j/8094790671)

Board Members in Attendance: James Loren Thayer, President; Verne L. Thayer, Director ; Marilyn W. Thayer, Treasurer; Nancy L. Thayer, Secretary; Samuel Mifflin Thayer, Director;

Board Members Not in Attendance : Robin Thayer Harvey, Vice President; Jeffrey Thayer, Director; Larissa Thayer Cullen, Director; Carlos E. Thayer Nieto, Member



CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:11 p.m. by James Loren Thayer, President, upon establishing that a quorum was present to conduct business. Five of nine (5 of 9) board members were present.

OLD BUSINESS:

The President reports that TFA now has an agreement with a corporation to act as Thayer Families Association, Inc.'s Principal Place of Business and Registered Agent. The company is located in Pittsfield, MA. The President directs the Secretary to remove the current Longmeadow UPS Store, as TFA'S Principal Place of Business and Verne L. Thayer, Director, as Registered Agent and substitute in their place the Massachusetts Corporation located in Pittsfield, Massachusetts to act as TFA's Principal Place of Business and Registered Agent.

The President stated he used the TFA debit card to pay for this fee. It is for a yearly fee that will be good through June 24, 2018. The President informed the board that if any legal paper is served upon the board, our Secretary and himself will be sent an email along with the document.

NEW BUSINESS:

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary reports that she received an email from Patricia Thayer Muno, Chairperson of the Nomination Committee, and that Charles Jeffers Larson has agreed to be on this committee with Patricia. Donald Muno, has agreed to be on the ByLaws Committee with Nancy L. Thayer, Chairperson.

Carlos E. Thayer Nieto is working on the Membership Committee.

The Secretary reports that some people are still mailing old Membership forms. The President responded "We don't have any control over it."

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Marilyn W. Thayer, states she will email June's Treasury Report and that we can approve it at the next meeting.

REUNION CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Marilyn W. Thayer, Chairperson updates the board on the 2018 reunion as follows:

Date of reunion was established. June 28-July 2, 2018.

Pre reunion to have people come early. Nancy L. Thayer, on the Reunion Committee, will be doing some kind of tour on Friday which is not on the Saturday tour.

We have all of our meetings and presentations, along with the banquet on Sunday which is saving us a lot of money.

- Minimum food and beverage charge is now down to \$500.
- Marilyn paid the \$500 deposit which is non refundable and that money will come back to her charge card after the reunion and not to TFA.
- Currently working on programs and trying to find speakers, encouraging people to write Minnesota oriented articles for the Thayer Quarterly Newsletter.
- Hope to submit articles for next TQ Newsletter in September as that is time people will be making vacation plans for the next year.
- Would like the Board to talk about and vote on T-shirts. She is getting prices on 2
- We are pricing T-shirts with two companies and one of the companies is Tammy Thayer's cousin.

T-shirts and expects costs to be under \$9.00 with one color Verne Thayer is working on the design for the T-shirt so it will be an original design. We will try to do two colors but we may be only to afford one color.

Discussions took place regarding cost of T-shirt and whether the TFA will be able to pay for entire cost or subsidize the cost, how many T-shirts to order, the cost of one color versus two colors, discussion of budget proposed by past board, and how much to charge members for a registration fee for the reunion.

Marilyn states "So how about we table this question of T-shirt contribution. Once Verne Thayer has done a design we can send it and get a price. No objection by anyone.

The President thereupon asked Marilyn if there was anything else to discuss as the reunion was basically the main item on his Agenda. Marilyn responded "just the other motion I had about charging a registration fee. After her explanation, the President stated he would contact Larissa and give her a copy of the meeting here. We will see if we can get a registration fee in the upcoming newsletter.

Nancy brought up about future guidelines for reunions in the future and suggested that members submit proposals in advance to hold their reunions in their home state.

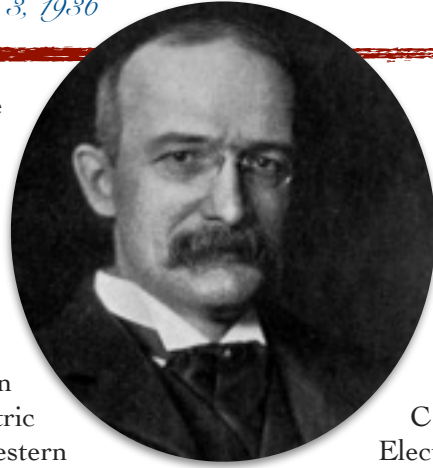
The PROPOSED DRAFT OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MTG HELD JUNE 25, 2017. consensus of the board was that members of TFA would probably not do this in advance and they are more likely to volunteer at the reunion.

THEREUPON, the President's motion to adjourn the meeting, all unanimously agreed. The next meeting will be determined at a later date.

HARRY BATES THAYER

August 17, 1858 - September 3, 1936

He was educated at Northfield High School in Northfield, Vermont. He Norwich University (the Military College of Vermont) for 2 years attending Dartmouth College, from which he graduated in 1879. After working in the Station Agent's office at the Bellows Falls VT railway became a shipping clerk at \$10 per week at Western Electric He was the International department manager in 1897. He traveled to 1896 and subsequently initiated Western Electric's participation in the Nippon Electric Company, Ltd., where his assistant, Walter Tenney became a founding director. Thayer soon became the general manager in and later vice-president. In 1909 he became president of Western Electric vice-president at AT&T, American Telephone & Telegraph. He left Western



then attended before six months station, he Company. Japan in forming of Carleton New York City Company and Electric Company in

June 1919 to succeed his close friend Theodore Vail as president of AT&T. In 1920 the telephone system was de-nationalized by the Willis-Graham Act, freeing AT&T to acquire independent telephone companies. Under Thayer, AT&T flourished as a regulated monopoly and spread into radio broadcasting. In 1925 the research activities of AT&T and Western Electric were consolidated into Bell Labs. In 1925 Thayer resigned the presidency and became board chairman at AT&T, continuing in that role until he resigned in 1928.

In April 25, 1887 Thayer married Carrie M. Ransom of Ransomville, NY. They had three children together and after living on Staten Island and then Kingsbridge, settled in New Canaan, CT in 1903. Carrie Thayer died in 1916. Harry Thayer died in New Canaan, 3 September 1936.

From 1937 until 2011 the primary dining facility at Dartmouth College was named Thayer Hall in honor of his service to the College, which included serving on the Board of Trustees. - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Bates_Thayer

"It is easy to fool yourself. It is possible to fool the people you work for. It is more difficult to fool the people you work with. But it is almost impossible to fool the people who work under you."

Harry B. Thayer

A PORTRAIT OF HARRY BATES THAYER, DARTMOUTH CLASS OF 1879, IS ON DISPLAY AT THE SCHOOL, IN RECOGNITION OF THE BUILDING'S HISTORY. DARTMOUTH'S FORMER THAYER DINING HALL, (RENAMED IN 2011 AFTER RENOVATION), WAS NAMED IN HIS HONOR.



H.B. Thayer driving an 1899 Orient Autogo with family members & friends. Image from Find A Grave.

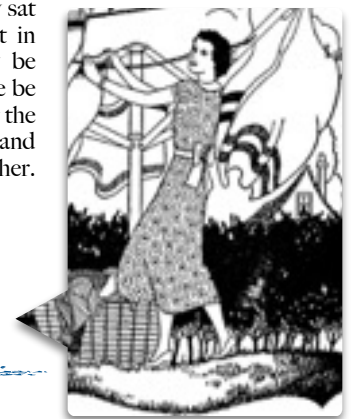


H.B. Thayer having a drink by his home on Silvermine Pond in New Canaan, CT. Image from Find A Grave.

Long before smartphones and Touch Tone, H.B. Thayer was making State-of-the-Art Telephony history. Read the story in its entirety on page 9.

"Hello, Central, Give Me the America!" by John Walker Harrington, published in Popular Radio, May 1922.

TWO-WAY talk by radio that enables a man at sea to talk over the land telephone lines is the latest achievement of the far-speaking art. The flawless performance which was given when the commander of the incoming ocean liner America recently talked when he was 360 miles at sea with H. B. Thayer, who was in his home at New Canaan, Connecticut, is a significant forecast of a new year. Mr. Thayer, as president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, is naturally interested in the development of the relations between the telephony of the air and that which follows the throbbing wire. The test in which he took part on the night of March 5 is only one of a series which was begun for the purpose of bringing people in the cities in touch with their friends on ocean-going vessels. One of these days James Wilberforce Smith, or whatever his name may be, will sit in his stateroom in mid-ocean and call up Mrs. Smith to tell her what he had for dinner. He cannot go into too intimate detail, of course, for owners of radio phones all over the world almost have a chance to listen in. They did just this the other night when Captain Rind and Mr. Thayer were talking of the future of telephony. Radio fans all over the eastern part of the country knew all about the feat, as the conversation was naturally broadcasted. Experts may not consider it such a remarkable feat to join wire and vibrant air, but the communication of the America with the shore did much to make practical a whole lot of theory. That the change can be made satisfactorily was shown by the interesting tests made with the coastwise steamship Gloucester, from which speech was first sent by wireless to the shore, then transmitted across the Continent to the Pacific coast, and then relayed by radio once more to Catalina Island. When the World War was over, the company, as radio fans will remember, conducted long telephone communications between Arlington and the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Many a radio amateur, in a spirit of experiment, has invited some friend who has no receiving set to listen to some thing choice which he has detected in the air. Merely by placing the receiver of the radiophone over the transmitter of the ordinary telephone, he can entertain an auditor with some entertaining selections. On the lines of this unauthorized practice, and, of course, with much greater precision, the company itself connected up the wireless with its own land wires. To do this it employed its wire less stations at Elberon and at Deal Beach, N. J., and such apparatus as it required in its big operating station in the skyscrapers at No. 24 Walker Street, New York City, where a group of company officials had gathered. Owing to many factors with which every radio amateur is familiar by experience, there are obstacles to perfect communication which must be overcome in such experiments. The waves used in sending and receiving would have burned each other up, so to speak, had the two stations not been separated by the mile and half of sands. The voice of the captain of the America, as is shown in the accompanying diagram, was carried over the sea for one hundred and twenty leagues to the Elberon station. There it was so modified that its waves were made of such frequency as to make them audible over the land lines with which it was connected. When Mr. Thayer replied to Captain Rind his voice followed the metal strands to the station at Deal Beach, and were then amplified and cast out into the air, where they were duly received on board the steamer. The two stations, on the New Jersey beach, although so widely separated, were doing fine team work. The two currents — the going and the coming current — as far as the ship was concerned, passed through the plant in Walker Street, where greater power was imparted to them, for distribution to the telephone subscribers who cared to listen to this historic interchange of greetings. By the use of various duplex devices the captain of the America, who did not have a mile and a half of beach for lee way, was able to talk into the phone and to hear at the same time. His voice, going through the vacuum tubes, was easily spread in every direction and was caught up by the station at Elberon. Thus the two-way talk proceeded with out interruption and Mr. Thayer and the captain conversed quite as easily as they might have done had they been in adjoining offices in the city. The instantaneous replies to questions and greetings was an admirable demonstration of the new method. It is a bit early to predict just how far-reaching this innovation will prove to be. It certainly should become of great value for communications between captains of vessels and the agents or owners ashore. Instead of a long interchange of wireless telegrams, it would give the same direct and clear understanding of orders as might be obtained by those concerned had they sat facing each other across a flat top desk. The need of just such direct interchanges has often been apparent in emergencies. While the functions of radio and wire transmissions are so radically different, yet they may be harmonized in many ways. The message which comes by wireless over many liquid leagues may in the first place be caught by the receiving sets of many alert fans. This was actually the case when the America was approaching. For the ordinary purpose of business, however, the network of land wires that reach all parts of the nation by telephone and telegraph are a powerful aid in the dispatching of information which is sent in throbbing from the realms of ether. The outcome of the latest liaison between wire and wireless will be followed closely by the disciples of radio.



AS SEEN ON FACEBOOK

GIVE A LOOK AND A LIKE (AND A COMMENT IF YOU WISH) TO SOME RECENT STORIES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED!

From your Editor:

Visit this link to read about "Elizabetha" Schulyer, wife of Alexander Hamilton and Great-Aunt to John Eliot Thayer and Steven Van Rensselaer Thayer, two brothers featured in recent issues of this newsletter. <https://tinyurl.com/y7tmnncr>

From fellow TFA and Board Member Jeffrey Thayer:

Visit this link to read a feature article on the critical importance of Sylvanus Thayer in its Summer 2017 issue. Please read it to understand the measures that he took in order to establish West Point for the training of professional military officers. Also understand the difficulties that he faced from his predecessor, Alden Partridge, as well as from President Andrew Jackson. <https://www.westpointaog.org/westpointmagazine>

From fellow TFA and Board Member Verne L. Thayer: Look what I found in a antique shop. The shop was in Uxbridge, MA. Most of the Thayer in this area are descended from Ferdinando Thayer, son of immigrant Thomas Thayer. (Stained Glass window memorializing Elizabeth Levina Thayer, wife of Captain Enos Washington Thayer, on the Richard line).

From Alice Mellott: "I am trying to find any of the Thayers in the Washington, Idaho area that are related to Ossie and Annie Thayer.



DON'T WAIT, SHARE YOUR THAYER STORIES!
JOIN YOUR FAMILY
[FACEBOOK/THAYER FAMILIES ASSOCIATION](https://www.facebook.com/thayerfamiliesassociation)

TFA REUNION 2018 REGISTRATION FORM

YOU BETCHA, WE'RE GOING TO MINNESOTA.

June 28 - July 2, 2018

EARLY BIRDS: JUNE 28-29

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS: JUNE 30 - JULY 2

Attendee(s) information (please PRINT)

Name, Middle Name, Maiden Name, Last Name DOB _____ First

Name, Middle Name, Maiden Name, Last Name DOB _____ First

Day you plan to arrive? _____ **Day you plan to leave?** _____

Mailing address: _____

BEST way to contact you (add your cell for contact information during the reunion): PRINT NEATLY!

Tel. number: _____ email: _____

Cell: _____ **May we share your info with reunion guests?** ____yes ____ no

Number attending: _____ Thayer 2018 Reunion T-shirt sizes and number of each size (your cost: \$5.00 each, subsidized by the TFA):

Youth: Sm ____ Med ____ Large ____ **Adult:** Sm ____ Med ____ Large ____ XL ____ XXL ____

Please tell us how many to include in the following; and send your payment check accordingly, along with your registration form (made out to Thayer Families Association):

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
n/a	Thayer 2018 Reunion Family Registration Fee	\$10.00	\$10.00
n/a	Thayer 2018 Reunion T-shirts	\$5 per person	\$ _____
Friday, June 30	Guided tour of Twin Cities and Mississippi River Cruise	\$60 per person	\$ _____
Saturday, July 1	Luncheon*	\$30 per person*	\$ _____
Saturday, July 1	Banquet*	\$42.50 per person*	\$ _____

* Luncheon and Banquet is half price for each child under 10

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Please email marilynthayer@verizon.net or call 315.963.7021 with your questions and suggestions!

Please send checks made out to **TFA**, along with registration forms **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** to:

Marilyn Thayer, 756 County Route 58, Mexico, NY 13114

TFA Membership Form

Please complete this form with information as you would like it to appear in the TFA Membership Directory, which will be published annually, and made available to participating TFA members who have provided their information. This membership directory is strictly for use by TFA members for the purpose of contacting other members for socialization, for sharing of genealogical research and to establish closer family relationships with other Thayer families. This directory should not be shared or forwarded to any non member or be used to solicit business or personal fundraising.

Indicate if you are a New Single Member, New Family Member, or Renewal Member, and enclose appropriate check or money order payable to the Association at the address on the bottom of this form.

Annual Dues, New Member & Member Renewal Form

Please enter desired options:

Annual Dues: \$20.00 Single Membership: _____ Renewal: _____

Annual Dues: \$30.00 Family Membership: _____ Renewal: _____

Please note: A family membership consists of two adults of the same household (husband and wife; sisters and or brothers; or any combination of two persons. If you wish to pay dues for more than one year, just multiply the amount times the number of years chosen. Fill out the following and return this application form with your dues as indicated above.

First member full name: _____

Second family member full name: _____

Number of years desired: _____ x Appropriate Annual Fee (\$20 or \$30) = Total: _____

Most recent Thayer connection: _____ birth & death dates if known: _____

Earliest known Thayer ancestor: _____ birth & death dates if known: _____

Full Name(s) to appear on Mailings: _____

Mailing Address: Number & Street: _____

City, _____ State: _____ Country, _____ ZIP Code/Postal Code: _____

Telephone number: (_____) _____ - _____

Are you able to receive, open, and read downloaded files using PDF format? Yes _____ No _____

Thayer Quarterly newsletter preference: via Email (PDF format): _____ via Snail Mail (booklet): _____

E-Mail Address: _____

If new member, how did you hear about TFA (include referring person if applicable): _____

Do you have any special talents or interests that would benefit the TFA?

Please mail this completed form, plus your check payable to Thayer Families Association at the following address:

THAYER FAMILIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

c/o Nancy L. Thayer

1327 Lavanham Court

Apopka, FL 32712-3069

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



We would like to provide the future opportunity for members to contact each other via a Membership Directory. This is to be a listing of all members of the Thayer Families Association, Inc., aka TFA, (a Massachusetts corporation), made available only to participating individual TFA members, and would be published on an annual basis. *This directory will not be shared by the TFA with other organizations. Member use is limited to contact for the purpose of genealogical questions or member socialization. You can select which information you wish displayed. Please note: you have the ability to change or update your information at any time via the TFA's website (www.thayerfamilies.com), by email to jim@thayerfamilies.com, or by snail mail to TFA, 1327 Lavanham Court, Apopka, FL 32712-3069. For updates to take effect, please expect notification within 2 hours for website confirmation. Please allow 24-48 hours for email confirmation, and 5-7 business days for mailed confirmation.

MANAGING YOUR PREFERENCES

We will include your information only with your consent. By checking boxes below, you are consenting to provide your contact information to other participating TFA Members:

- First and Last Name(s)
- Mailing Address
- Home Phone Number
- Mobile Phone Number
- Email Address
- No thanks, I do not wish to participate in a TFA Membership Directory

* Note: if published online, the Membership Directory will be password-protected.

THE THAYER QUARTERLY
1327 Lavanham Court
Apopka, FL 32712-3069



Contacting Your TFA

For all general business with the TFA, please contact our TFA Secretary:

Nancy L. Thayer
1327 Lavanham Court
Apopka, FL 32712-3069
Email: nancy@thayerfamilies.com

For genealogical queries, or to find a Family Representative of a particular family, please write (and include an SASE for written reply):

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

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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 \$5.00 each for members, \$10.00 each for nonmembers, checks only, payable to TFA.

**TFA, 1327 Lavanham Court
Apopka, FL 32712-3069**

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. Digital photos sent via email are also welcome. Send typed articles to the TFA address or email the Editor with an attached file containing the article. 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.

Now collecting your stories, photographs, recipes and treasured memories for our Winter issue. Children encouraged to send their stories, projects and artwork! **Deadline for submission to the Winter Issue is October 31, 2017. Please send via email to the editor: larissa@thayerfamilies.com**



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