

THE KISS FAMILY TREE: TOMMY THAYER

MOVIE STAR #1 (1979)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitar</i>	Jamie St. James <i>Drums/Vocals</i>	Virgil Ripper <i>Guitar</i>	Todd Jensen <i>Bass</i>	Pete Horne <i>Keyboards</i>
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Todd's had been involved with some of Tommy's garage bands, though he and Tommy would work together in the late-1980s.

MOVIE STAR #2 (1979-80)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitar</i>	Jamie St. James <i>Drums/Vocals</i>	Virgil Ripper <i>Guitar</i>	Julian Raymond <i>Bass/Vocals</i>	Pete Horne <i>Keyboards</i>
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The band started playing a mix of covers and originals in Portland clubs. The band did find time to record a three-song demo.

LOVED BY MILLIONS (1980 - 1981)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitar</i>	Jamie St. James <i>Drums/Vocals</i>	Virgil Ripper <i>Guitar</i>	Julian Raymond <i>Lead Vocals</i>	Patrick Young <i>Bass</i>
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BLACK 'N BLUE #1 (Nov. 1981 – May 1982)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitar</i>	Jamie St. James <i>Lead Vocals</i>	Virgil Ripper <i>Guitar</i>	Pete Holmes <i>Drums</i>	Patrick Young <i>Bass</i>
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The initial Black 'N Blue line-up was simply a transformation of the previous band replacing the vocalist. Jamie had sang with another band one night and it simply seemed to fit that he should be fronting the band...

BLACK 'N BLUE #1 (May 1982 – 1989, 1997)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitar</i>	Jamie St. James <i>Vocals</i>	Jeff Warner <i>Guitar</i>	Patrick Young <i>Bass</i>	Peter Holmes <i>Drums</i>
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Formed in Portland, Oregon, Black 'N Blue recorded their first album in Germany similar to the road that Dokken had taken. Even though Gene Simmons produced two albums for them, and the band toured with KISS, the group never really broke.

HARLOW (1990)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitars</i>	Pat Regan <i>Keyboards</i>	Todd Jensen <i>Bass</i>	Teresa Straley <i>Vocals</i>	Steven Klong <i>Drums</i>
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Harlow would release one album on Reprise records which was produced by the band. Pat, Tod and Tommy had both worked on Doro's 1990 self-titled album which was also produced by one Gene Simmons...

AMERICAN MAN (1990)

Tommy Thayer <i>Lead Guitar</i>	Todd Jensen <i>Bass/Vocals</i>	Kevin Valentine <i>Drums</i>	Brian Jennings <i>Bass/Vocals</i>
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Short-lived band that may have done some demo recording.

THE MARX BROTHERS (1990-1)

Jamie St. James <i>Lead Vocals</i>	Tommy Thayer <i>Lead Guitar</i>	Chris McLernon <i>Bass</i>	Anthony White <i>Drums</i>
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Initially, the band that became "Cold Gin" was simply a "for-fun" covers band.

COLD GIN #1 (1991 – Summer 1992)

Jamie St. James <i>"Peter"</i>	Tommy Thayer <i>"Ace"</i>	Chris McLernon <i>"Gene"</i>	Anthony White <i>"Paul"</i>
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Cold Gin would be the first KISS tribute band to really make a statement, a statement solidified by the band being invited to play at Paul Stanley's 40th birthday bash in 1992 after Gene and Paul had visited a Cold Gin show in late-1991.

COLD GIN #1 (Summer 1992 – 1994)

Jamie St. James <i>"Peter"</i>	Tommy Thayer <i>"Ace"</i>	Spiro Papadatos <i>"Gene"</i>	Anthony White <i>"Paul"</i>
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Chris quit to join Saigon Kick.

SHAKE THE FAITH (1994)

Tommy Thayer <i>Guitars</i>	David Aragon <i>Vocals</i>	Kenny Kweens <i>Bass</i>	Brian Jennings <i>Guitars</i>	David Parker <i>Drums</i>
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Tommy joined this pre-existing band that released one album, "America The Violent." The band played the Foundations Forum show of 1994.

No. 9 (1994)

Signed for a very brief time before getting dropped. No. 9 was simply a name change for "Shake The Faith"...

KISS (Feb. 2002 –)

Tommy had been dressed up and ready to play with KISS as Ace as early as 2000 when Ace nearly missed a show in Irvine, CA. With his tribute role as Ace and experience, he'd be the perfect replacement for the "Spaceman".