

TRADITION HAS IT that *Yankee Doodle* had its origins in the French and Indian War when New England troops joined Braddock's forces at Niagara. In contrast to the spit and polish of the British army, the colonials were a motley crew, some wearing buckskins and furs. Dr. Richard Schuckburg, a British Army surgeon reportedly wrote the tune ridiculing the Americans in the early 1750s. Some scholars believe it is a variant of the nursery rhyme *Lucy Locket*.

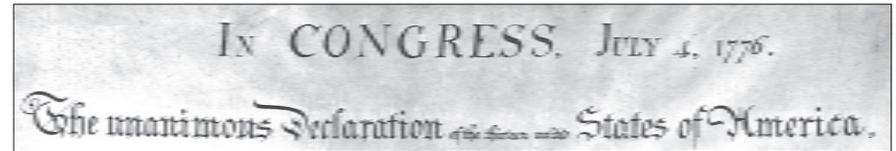
Despite the fact it began as ridicule, the colonials took the song for their own. Countless versions and parodies evolved, many of which made fun of their officers, including George Washington. When Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown it is said while the British played *The World Turned Upside Down*, the Americans played *Yankee Doodle*.

There are said to be as many as 190 verses of *Yankee Doodle*.

Why Did Yankee Doodle Stick a Feather In His Hat and Call it Macaroni?

BACK IN Pre-Revolutionary America when the song *Yankee Doodle* was first popular, the singer was not referring to the pasta "macaroni" in the line that reads "stuck a feather in his hat and called it macaroni". "Macaroni" was a fancy ("dandy") style of Italian dress widely imitated in England at the time. So by just sticking a feather in his cap and calling himself a "Macaroni" (a "dandy"), Yankee Doodle was proudly proclaiming himself to be a country bumpkin, because that was how the English regarded most colonials at that time. But times have long since changed, and it is important to reflect on the fact that despite the turbulent early relationship between England and the American colonists, our two countries are strongly united.

Â



Second Annual Reading of

The Declaration of Independence
Jaffrey Meetinghouse
July 4th, 2002 at Noon

PROGRAM

Welcome – Mary Payson (Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society)

Presentation of The Declaration – Rebecca English

The Readers in Order of Appearance (Tentative)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Marc Tieger | 13. Martin Dunne |
| 2. Steve Meyers | 14. Lee Sawyer |
| 3. Caroline Hollister | 15. Debbie English |
| 4. George Cox | 16. Bob Brandin |
| 5. Frank Sterling | 17. Margaret Bean |
| 6. Charlie Royce | 18. Mitchell Pierce |
| 7. Joe Manning | 19. Robert Conroy |
| 8. Dick Grodin | 20. Sally Roberts |
| 9. Jeanne LaBrie | 21. Ben Ericson |
| 10. Bud Lyle | 22. John Field |
| 11. Peter Davis | 23. Sean Wiley |
| 12. Eddie Ginsburg | 24. Nancy Lloyd |

- 25. Charlie Marvin
- 26. Bill Schofield
- 27. Tuesday Wright
- 28. Nancy Nelson
- 29. Nancy Isaacs
- 30. Dick Cunningham
- 31. Owen Houghton

- 32. Bill Driscoll
- 33. Bob Chase
- 34. Louise Curran
- 35. Dave Hurlin
- 36. Anne Webb
- 37. Jonathan Banker
- 38. Rachel Soney

A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led by Bryan English, followed by . . .

Three Cheers for the United States. Hip Hip Hooray!

Concluding with the Ringing of the Bell by Anne, Thomas and David Oliver.

FOLLOWING THE READING THERE WILL BE . . .

- A Walking Tour of the Village (arranged and led by Nancy Nelson, Jaffrey Historic District Commission).
- The Little Red Schoolhouse will be open (Jackie Johnson, Jaffrey Historical Society).
- The Seagrave Fire Engine will be on-site (Bill Driscoll, Jaffrey Historical Society).
- Melville Academy will be open and there will be an Ice Cream Social on the lawn (Mary Jo Marvin, Sally Roberts, Janet Grant, *et al.*, Village Improvement Society).

These free festivities are being co-sponsored by the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society, the Jaffrey Historic District Commission, the Jaffrey Historical Society and the Selectmen's Meetinghouse Committee of the Town of Jaffrey. Our thanks to the volunteer readers, tour guides and all those others who have helped out. Ice cream kindly provided by Kimball Farms, Jaffrey.

Yankee Doodle

Yankee Doodle went to town
A-riding on a pony
Stuck a feather in his hat
And called it macaroni.

Chorus

*Yankee doodle, keep it up
Yankee doodle dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy.*

Father and I went down to camp
Along with Captain Gooding
And there we saw the men and boys
As thick as hasty pudding.

Chorus

There was Captain Washington
Upon a slapping stallion
A-giving orders to his men
I guess there was a million.

Chorus

Yankee Doodle went to town
A-riding on a pony
Stuck a feather in his hat
And called it macaroni.

Chorus