

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.



Fourth Annual Reading of

The Declaration of Independence
Jaffrey Meetinghouse
July 4th, 2004 at Noon

PROGRAM

Welcome
Janet S. Grant
Jaffrey Historic District Commission

Presentation of The Declaration
Rebecca and Jennifer English

The Readers in Order of Appearance

1. Clay Hollister
2. James O'Neill
3. Julie Hinman
4. Michelle Durand
5. Marc Tieger
6. Joseph Manning
7. Richard Grodin
8. H. Charles Royce
9. Mary Jo Marvin
10. Bruce Edwards
11. David Hurlin
12. William Schofield
13. Sergeant Todd Freyer
14. Robert Conroy
15. Doug Ley
16. Jessie Bernard
17. William Driscoll
18. Patricia Van Ness
19. Franklin Sterling
20. Morgan LaCasse
21. Alex Gutterman
22. Marilyn Simon
23. Kenneth Durand
24. Connor Foley

- 25. Jane Torrey
- 26. Chief David Chamberlain
- 27. David Jeffries
- 28. Owen Houghton
- 29. Amanda Guitard
- 30. Elizabeth Smith
- 31. Michael Carlton

- 32. Caroline Hollister
- 33. Allen Clapp
- 34. Carolyn Garretson
- 35. Shawn Manoni
- 36. Bridget Batchelder
- 37. Rachel Soney
- 38. Sadie Jackson

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

A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led by Bryan English and accompanied by Virginia Eskin on the new square grand piano, followed by . . .

“THREE CHEERS FOR THE UNITED STATES. HIP HIP HOORAY!”

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

• 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).

FOLLOWING THE READING THERE WILL BE . . .

• An Ice Cream Social on the lawn of Melville Academy at Blackberry Lane & Thorndike Pond Road. And Melville will be open. (Mary Jo Marvin, Sally Roberts, Mary Payson, 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 and all those others who have helped out. The flowers were provided and arranged by Elizabeth Smith. Sean Driscoll managed the sound system. Program produced by Rob Stephenson. Overall planning and coordination: Amy Meyers. Ice cream kindly provided by Kimball Farms, Jaffrey.