

**T**RADITION 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?

**B**ACK 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.



Fifth Annual Reading  
*of*  
The Declaration of Independence  
Jaffrey Meetinghouse  
July 4<sup>th</sup> 2005 at Noon

#### PROGRAM

Welcome  
Caroline K. Hollister  
Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society

Presentation of The Declaration  
Helen and Henry Soney

#### The Readers in Order of Appearance

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|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Michael Shea       | 13. Ned Meyers       |
| 2. Amanda Jillson     | 14. Joanne Buck      |
| 3. Marc Tieger        | 15. David Oliver     |
| 4. Meghan Clark-Kevan | 16. Elizabeth Smith  |
| 5. Franklin Sterling  | 17. Martin Dunn      |
| 6. Aylmer Given       | 18. Nicholas White   |
| 7. Julie Hinman       | 19. James O'Neill    |
| 8. Bonnie Mitchell    | 20. Ian LaCasse      |
| 9. Donald Upton       | 21. Kenneth Campbell |
| 10. David Chamberlain | 22. Olivia Lewis     |
| 11. Shawn Manoni      | 23. Tuck Gilbert     |
| 12. Marilyn Simons    | 24. Bruce Edwards    |

25. Claire Wiesenauer  
26. Rick Stein  
27. Clay Hollister  
28. William Hermann  
29. Nancy Clapp  
30. Stuart Davidson  
31. Cassius Webb

32. John Field  
33. Karen Nadeau  
34. Pamela Gordon  
35. Christianna Rivet  
36. Dusty Hamilton  
37. Kathy Thigpen  
38. John Bliss

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A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led by Owen Houghton and accompanied by Millie Vigneault on the square grand piano, followed by . . .

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

Concluding with the Ringing of the Bell by Helen, Henry and friends.

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• 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, corner of Blackberry Lane & Thorndike Pond Road. And Melville will be open. {Sally Roberts, Mary Payson, Janet Grant, Mary Jo Marvin, Suzanne Oliver, *et al.*, VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY}

These free festivities are 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 Margaret Pokorny.

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.

## 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