

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.



Sixth Annual Reading
of
The Declaration of Independence
Jaffrey Meetinghouse
July 4th 2006 at Noon

PROGRAM

Welcome
Anne Webb
Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society

Presentation of The Declaration
Katie and Grace Chadbourne

The Readers in Order of Appearance

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Hal Danser | 13. Jane Cunningham |
| 2. Ellen Avery | 14. David Griffin |
| 3. Robert Abernathy | 15. Brenda Bhatti |
| 4. Marsha Griffin | 16. James O'Neill |
| 5. Andrew Zboray | 17. Martin Dunn |
| 6. Bonnie Mitchell | 18. Mike Sisk |
| 7. Marc Tieger | 19. Dawn Oswalt |
| 8. Priscilla Palmer | 20. Josh Penick |
| 9. Marjorie Margolis | 21. Howard Hill |
| 10. Franklin Sterling | 22. Carolyn Jalbert |
| 11. Joe Steinfield | 23. Bill Royce |
| 12. Don MacIsaac | 24. Kathy Smith |

- 25. Larry Liebman
- 26. Stephanie Minter
- 27. Margo Johnson
- 28. Susan Peterson
- 29. Bill Driscoll
- 30. Rosemary Poole
- 31. Rod Mackenzie

- 32. Bernard Kaminski
- 33. David Chamberlain
- 34. Kathy Batchelder
- 35. Michael Redmond
- 36. Lucy Meyers
- 37. Phil Cournoyer
- 38. Joan Knight

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

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

Concluding with the Ringing of the Bell by Erickson and Kennedy Richard.

• 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, Mary Jo Marvin, Suzanne Oliver, Nancy Clapp, Karen Kirkpatrick, *et al.*}

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: ANN ROYCE.

Ice cream kindly provided by Kimball Farm, 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