

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.

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Thirteenth Annual Reading
of
The Declaration of Independence
Jaffrey Meetinghouse
July 4th 2013 at Noon

PROGRAM

Welcome
Bill Driscoll
Jaffrey Historical Society

Presentation of The Declaration
Dylan McKenna & Olivia Blanchette

The Readers in Order of Appearance

1. Frank Sterling
2. Cindy Foley
3. Richard Ames
4. Haven White
5. Hal Danser
6. Susan Peterson
7. Nancy Isaacs
8. Lordes Polanco
9. Doug Ley
10. Ellen Avery
11. Deborah Hill
12. Tom Doane
13. Martha Gilroy
14. Ed Merrell
15. Peter Lambert
16. Sylvia Hamilton
17. Roland Morin
18. Mark Kresge
19. Tom Rothermel
20. Craig Tucker
21. Jeffrey Clark-Kevan
22. Frank Mieso
23. Sam Hackler
24. Mark Cournoyer

25. Chastity Dupuis
26. Sadie Jackson
27. Bill Raymond
28. Becky Newton
29. Susan Leach
30. Tuesday Wright
31. Caroline Hollister

32. John O. Field
33. Shirley Despres
34. Marsha Griffin
35. Brenda Bhatti
36. Bruce Edwards
37. Nan Quick
38. Linda Cramb

A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led
by Ellen Avery and accompanied by Louise Watson
on the square grand piano, followed by . . .

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

Concluding with the Ringing of the Bell by
Dylan McKenna & Olivia Blanchette

• 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. {Janet Grant, Sally Larsen, Ed &
Dee Poole, Sally Roberts, Kit Schiele, Patty Scholl, *et al.*}

These free festivities are co-sponsored by the Jaffrey Center Village
Improvement Society, the Jaffrey Historical Society, the Jaffrey Historic District
Commission and the Selectmen's Meetinghouse Committee.
Our thanks to the volunteer readers and all those others who have helped out.
The flowers were provided and arranged by Claire Bean, Jane Cunningham &
Dee Poole. Frank Sterling assigned the readings. Sean Driscoll, Sr. managed the
sound system, kindly provided by the Amos Fortune Forum.
Rob Stephenson handled media relations and produced the hand-outs.

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