

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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FIFTEENTH ANNUAL READING
of
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
Jaffrey Meetinghouse
July 4th 2015 at Noon

PROGRAM

WELCOME
Robert Stephenson, *President*
Jaffrey Historical Society

PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION
Samantha Newton

1. Peter Davis
2. Bonnie Mitchell
3. Robert Putnam
4. Steve Weiner
5. Lee Sawyer
6. Richard Ames
7. Doug Ley
8. Bill Schofield
9. Frank Sterling
10. Bernie Watson
11. Mike Newton
12. Bernie Hampsey
13. James Moore
14. Peter Straus
15. Steve Gehlbach
16. Laurel McKenzie
17. Bill Oswalt
18. Susan Peterson
19. Deborah Stewart
20. Ann Marie Furnival
21. Ellen Avery
22. Barbara Danser
23. Sylvia Hamilton
24. Chris Newton

25. Suzanne Mieso
26. Michael Osgood
27. Bill Raymond
28. Don Upton
29. Elizabeth Kintz
30. Becky Newton
31. Sam Hackler

32. John O. Field
33. Patricia Weiner
34. Unique Baldwin
35. Nadia Bhatti
36. Janet Chalke
37. Katie Gardella
38. Joe Sawyer

A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led by Bill Raymond 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 Christopher & Samantha Newton

☛ 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 in the Horse Sheds behind the Meetinghouse will be held after the Reading {Janet Grant, Gunilla Johanson, Patty Scholl}. And Melville will be open. {Ed & Dee Poole}.

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