

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL READING

of

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Jaffrey Meetinghouse

July 4th 2022 at Noon

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Suze Campbell

Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society

PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION

Agnes & Chip Bergeron

The Readers in Order of Appearance

1. David Jeffries
2. Lisa Bostnar
3. Maria DuPuis
4. Charlie Turcotte
5. Carolyn Garretson
6. Miki Osgood
7. David Chamberlain
8. Becky Newton
9. Rick Stein
10. Alex Bird
11. David Belletete
12. Nancy Clapp
13. Keith DuPuis
14. Harold Davis
15. Paddy McCarthy
16. Peter Davis
17. Marcus Wagner
18. Amy Meyers
19. Todd Muilenberg
20. Brianne DuPuis
21. Helen Wagner
22. Sheila Bergeron
23. Don MacIsaac
24. Owen Houghton
25. Frank Sterling
26. Donna Bryant
27. Barbara Danser
28. Mary Drew
29. Hal Danser
30. Marc Tieger
31. Steve Miller
32. Steve Jackson
33. Deborah Thurber
34. Bob Schaumann

35. Diane Schaumann
36. Carol Greenwald
37. Sharon Tieger

38. John McCarthy
39. Harrison Wagner
40. Marilyn Simons
41. Clay Hollister

A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led by Sean Driscoll 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.

• The Little Red Schoolhouse on The Common will be open. {Jackie Johnson, JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY}

• The 1931 Seagrave Fire Engine will again be on-site. {JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY}

• A present-day Jaffrey Fire Engine will be on-site. {JAFFREY FIRE CHIEF David Chamberlain and Jaffrey Firefighters}

FOLLOWING THE READING THERE WILL BE . . .

• An Ice Cream Social in the Horsesheds provided by the JAFFREY CENTER VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY, Patty Scholl, Gunilla Johanson, Pauline & Steve Brackett assisting. And the MELVILLE ACADEMY MUSEUM will be open 2-4pm, Suze & Ken Campbell, *hosts*.

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 organized by Nancy Belletete. Caroline & Clay Hollister assigned the readings. Sean Driscoll managed the sound system, kindly provided by the Amos Fortune Forum. Rob Stephenson handled media relations and produced the hand-out.

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

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.