

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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Eighth Annual Reading
of
The Declaration of Independence
Jaffrey Meetinghouse
July 4th 2008 at Noon

PROGRAM

Welcome
Deborah Stewart
Jaffrey Historical Society

Presentation of The Declaration
Julaluk Trimble

The Readers in Order of Appearance

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bill McKenzie | 13. Lisa Ramey |
| 2. Judith Gregory | 14. John McPeake |
| 3. Steve Gehlbach | 15. Richard Pedott |
| 4. Amy Noel | 16. Emily Preston |
| 5. Stephanie Minter | 17. Bill Oswalt |
| 6. John Hunt | 18. Mariah Maki |
| 7. Bobbie Gilbert | 19. Mike Sisk |
| 8. Marc Tieger | 20. Carol Pryor |
| 9. Charles Koch | 21. Bonnie Mitchell |
| 10. Marilyn Simons | 22. Nan Quick |
| 11. Cyndy Burgess | 23. John Smith |
| 12. Bernard Hampsey | 24. Louise Curran |

25. Ed Madigan
26. Martha Gilroy
27. Charles Trimble
28. Franklin Sterling
29. Clay Hollister
30. Bob Chamberlain
31. Joan Knight

32. Robert Abernethy
33. Jeffrey Clark-Kevan
34. Mary Emerson
35. Barbara Danser
36. Rick Stein
37. Susan Emerson
38. Ken Campbell

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

• 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, Bill Hermann, Mary Jo Marvin, Christine
Pedoctt, Ed & Dee Poole, Sally Roberts, 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 Margaret Pokorny.
Ann Royce assigned the readings. Sean Driscoll managed the sound system.
Ken Campbell handled media relations. Rob Stephenson 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