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Club-A-Rama Week 44:

LIBERTY BELL

1964

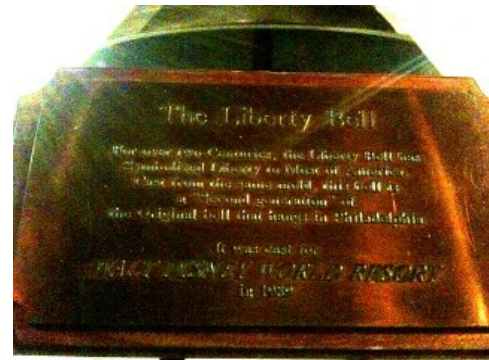


In honor of our Nation's birthday, MOLDVILLE.com is proud to reissue the small **LIBERTY BELL!**

Owned by the city of Philadelphia, the LIBERTY BELL originally hung in the steeple of the Pennsylvania State House (now called Independence Hall). It was commissioned from the London firm of Lester and Pack in 1752, and is cast with the lettering (part of Leviticus 25:10) "Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." It originally cracked when first rung after arrival in Philadelphia, and was twice recast by local workmen John Pass and John Stow, whose names appear on the bell. In its early years, the Liberty Bell was used to summon lawmakers to legislative sessions and to alert citizens to public meetings and proclamations.



This is a vintage large **LIBERTY BELL** on the left next to a reissued small **LIBERTY BELL** on the right. The large **LIBERTY BELL**, at 4" high, is only 1/4" taller than the small **LIBERTY BELL**. Club-A-Rama members will receive a reissued small **LIBERTY BELL**.



There's a replica recast of the **LIBERTY BELL** at the Magic Kingdom in Disneyworld.



The display window on the left side of the early style machine (MODEL 688) is quite shallow at about 2" or so deep. (The window on the right is even more so but was intended to display a written sign.) You can see in the photo at left that the small Liberty Bell doesn't even fit in the window (it's being crushed behind the plexi.) So we can be sure that the Liberty Bell wasn't vended from an early style machine! The later style machine (MODEL 688-A) first made in mid-1963 has a much deeper display window (more like 5" deep) with a rotating pedestal.



Here is some home movie footage I discovered from the 1965 New York Worlds Fair of "Pennsylvania's LIBERTY BELL Exhibit". Makes me wonder if the LIBERTY BELL moldset originated for use at the 1964-65 New York World's Fair?



Now I REALLY don't know what to make of this. The large LIBERTY BELL was made first, in 1963, and was numbered 1066. Then the small LIBERTY BELL was made later, in early 1964, together with the wave of presidents busts made in anticipation of their use at the Illinois Pavilion's ONE NATION UNDER GOD show at the 1964 New York World's Fair (See discussion in WEEK 24 writeup with respect to the LINCOLN BUST.) Does that mean the LIBERTY BELL was first used at the 1964 New York World's Fair? Please email if you can confirm.

In a little bit of a mystery, the small LIBERTY BELL was numbered 1108. As you can see above, the numbering of the small LIBERTY BELL was initially casted as 1066 but then crossed out and hand stamped with the correct numbering of 1108. I'm at a loss as to what we can infer from the renumbering after the small LIBERTY BELL was cast?

Disclaimers: The color and/or exact condition of the MOLD you get in the CLUB-A-RAMA may or may not be as shown. Not for children under 3.

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If YOU would like to own this very moldset (and perhaps even include a fully operating MOLDVILLE machine to go with it) so you can reissue your own souvenirs from 50 years ago, please email MoldvilleMachine@gmail.com TODAY - before someone else beats you to it!

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