

MOLD-A-RAMA (moldarama) machine made in 1964 by Mold-A-Rama, Inc. for New York World's Fair, and Seattle World's Fair in 1962, is restored to its original glory to reissue souvenirs last seen half a century ago. MOLD-A-RAMA machine made in 1964 by Mold-A-Rama, Inc. for New York World's Fair, and Seattle World's Fair in 1962, is restored to its original glory to reissue souvenirs last seen half a century ago.

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Experience the souvenir fun of the 60s & 70s again, for the first time...

(MOLDVILLE is not affiliated with **Mold-A-Rama, Inc.** of Chicago, IL nor with the 1960s company **Mold-A-Rama, Inc.** of Los Angeles, original operator of the "Disneyland Toy Factory.")

Website last updated: 04-18-2016



Club-A-Rama v2.0

WEEK 32

GLASS BOTTOM BOAT

1967-68 Silver Springs , Florida



Tourists began visiting Silver Springs several years after the [American Civil War](#). In the 1870s, the invention at Silver Springs of the "glass bottom boat" gave visitors a spectacular and unique view of the springs. Silver Springs gained national attention through journals and guidebooks, and became a mandatory stop on the "grand tour" of Florida. Former President [Ulysses S. Grant](#) visited the area in 1880. Silver Springs' world-renowned "Glass Bottom Boats" take guests on tours of the Silver River, which has its head waters within the park. From the glass bottom boats guests can observe many of the rivers springs and wildlife.



This is my father (aka "Father of Moldville") at Florida's SILVER SPRINGS in July 1954 . . .



. . . and my mother as well (aka "Mother of Moldville") at the "Carriage Cavalcade" at SILVER SPRINGS on the same trip! Some other photos from the Moldville family photo album showing the glass bottom boats in July 1954:



Several movies and television shows were filmed at Silver Springs including *Tarzan* in the 1930s. The clarity of the water of the Silver River made it useful for filming underwater scenes for *James Bond* movies, and episodes of the *Six Million Dollar Man*. There are over 20 movies and TV shows listed on IMDB as being filmed at Silver Springs.



Boy, the history of these glass bottom boats sure goes wayback (the photo on the left is dated 1914)!





[This links to a movie that my Grandfather and Grandmother \(aka "Grandparents of Moldville" took at Silver Springs, Florida in the 1950-51 time frame.\)](#)

In January 2013 the Florida Cabinet announced that the Silver Springs park operators would relinquish control at the end of the 2013 summer season. Steady declines in ticket sales and increasing nitrate pollution have made the attraction unprofitable. The state plans to clean up the area and make it accessible as part of the adjacent Silver River State Park.



The **GLASS BOTTOM BOAT** is a moldset that was custom-made for SILVER SPRINGS, Florida in the UNnumbered time period of 1967-68.

As something special this week in the MOLDVILLE Club-A-Rama, below is a photo of a plaster MASTER of the **GLASS BOTTOM BOAT**. The thing is, the GLASS BOTTOM BOAT (as well as most molds in both v1.0 and v2.0 of the MOLDVILLE Club) originated in the 1960s Mold-A-Rama era, and we have no explanation as to why this does not appear to be the master for THIS particular moldset. The master is slightly wider, and has different engraving! The best I can say is that there may be TWO different versions of the GLASS BOTTOM BOAT: one with the engraving as in the moldset above as received by all current members of the Moldville Club; and another with hand engraving on one side as in the master!





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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