

# National Bell Ringing Ceremony Independence Day

## THE BELL RING HEARD THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

In 1963, an act of Congress officially authorized the *Let Freedom Ring* National Bell Ringing Ceremony. This patriotic act says it is "fitting" and "appropriate" to ring bells in honor of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence. To participate on the 4th of July, bell ringing institutions across the country are to ring 13 times at 2:00 p.m. EDT.

With each passing year a larger number of church towers, fire halls, universities, carillons, state houses and other bell ringing institutions join in this simultaneous national observance. Last year the number rose to over 10,000 participants. But the potential is much greater. In years to come, citizens throughout the country should be able to hear the sound of our country's founding ... the same way the people of Philadelphia heard the ringing of the Liberty Bell in 1776. But to achieve our goal, we'll need your help.

### Concurrent Resolution Number 25 UNITED STATES SENATE & THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

"Whereas the tolling of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, 1776, proclaimed the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

Whereas the adoption of this historic document marked the birth of our country as a free and independent nation; and

Whereas it is fitting that the anniversary of this great event should be appropriately observed in each year at the same moment throughout the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Congress hereby (1) declares that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence should be observed each year by the ringing of bells throughout the United States at the hour of 2 o'clock, eastern daylight time, in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, or at such other time on that day as may be determined by local authority, and (2) call upon civic and other community leaders to take appropriate steps to encourage public participation in such observance."

Adopted 26 June 1963

# America Celebrates America's Day

## NATIONAL BELL RINGING CEREMONY INDEPENDENCE DAY



*Let Freedom Ring*™



I wish to participate in the *Let Freedom Ring* National Bell Ringing Ceremony.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Ringling Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Your Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Type of bell or carillon \_\_\_\_\_

Your Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Your E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

- I intend to ring. Please send a Roll of Honor Certificate.
- RECRUITMENT: I wish to recruit additional bell ringers. I will send you their names and addresses as soon as possible.
- Contribution to Liberty Bell ceremony.
- Contribution to nationwide promotion.

*All Contributions payable to PSSR.*

Or sign up by calling toll-free 1-800-330-1776

Email: [lfr@amrev.org](mailto:lfr@amrev.org)

Visit our website: [www.let-freedom-ring.org](http://www.let-freedom-ring.org)

"The official registration and financial information of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement."

Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution  
121 South Broad Street  
Suite 1910  
Philadelphia, Pa 19107

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## Let Freedom Ring

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF SONS OF THE REVOLUTION  
121 SOUTH BROAD STREET – SUITE 1910  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107

### Suggested Program for Local Participation in National Bell Ringing Ceremony

- Invocation by local clergy member
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Short speech by local dignitary
- Patriotic musical selection by a local band, choir, singer, or taped performance
- Reading of selections from the Declaration of Independence
- Bell Ringing to begin at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time 13 tolls
- 13 gun salute or artillery salute
- National Anthem
- Prayer of Remembrance for those who made the ultimate sacrifice

## As American as the Fourth of July...

High school bands ... John Philip Sousa marches ... polished fire trucks ... parades ... bicycles festooned with the Stars & Stripes ... patriotic pet contests ... canoe races ... picnics ... speeches ... baseball games ... watermelon ... hot dogs ... and on into the evening with a spectacular fireworks display. The Fourth of July has always been the American holiday, celebrated in the American way.

In getting together with family and friends, it is sometimes easy to forget the fundamental principles underlying the celebration. The right to “Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness” was not taken for granted by the Founders, and it should not be taken for granted by us. The “Let Freedom Ring™” National Bell Ringing Ceremony was established to remind Americans of the brave men and women who brought this nation into being.

In most American towns the official celebration of Independence Day includes speeches, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem. This year, why not make the “Let Freedom Ring” National Bell Ringing Ceremony a part of the patriotism. All it takes is a bell, and a commitment to ring it 13 times at 2:00 p.m. EDST.

### A National Institution Celebrated by National Monuments

Participating bells now include Independence Hall in Philadelphia ... the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor ... the National Cathedral in Washington ... Old North Church in Boston ... Arlington Cemetery ... and thousands of churches, synagogues, state capitals, radio stations, carillons, and government institutions including all commissioned ships in the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, and the Merchant Marine.

### Sponsored by: Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution

The Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution underwrites and sponsors the *Let Freedom Ring* National Bell Ringing Ceremony. Initially this meant organizing the event at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia. Subsequently, it was decided that we should undertake an outreach to citizens and bell ringing institutions throughout the country.

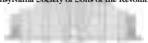
Remember the famous World War I recruiting poster with Uncle Sam pointing and saying, “I Want You.” It’s the same for us — only our poster would have the Liberty Bell and the words on it would be— “I Want You to Ring!”

**To participate call: 1-800-330-1776 or visit  
[www.let-freedom-ring.org](http://www.let-freedom-ring.org)**

Fill out and mail in the post card attached with this mailing, call the above number and tell us your intention to ring, or visit our website above and click on the “Let Freedom Ring” link. Be sure to provide us with the name and address of your bell ringing institution, the person to contact and your phone number. Once we hear from you we’ll be glad to enter your institution on the National Bell Ringing Roll of Honor and send you this official Certificate of Participation suitable for framing.

### National Bell Ringing Roll of Honor

Let it be known that this Certificate has been presented by  
the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution to



for Participation in  
Let Freedom Ring The National Bell Ringing Ceremony on Independence Day 2003

### Time Zone Coordination

The official National Bell Ringing Ceremony is initiated at 2:00 p.m. EDST at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia. Other time zones should ring in accordance with the schedule below.

1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard and Central  
Daylight Times

12:00 noon Central Standard and  
Mountain Daylight Times

11:00 a.m. Mountain Standard and  
Pacific Daylight Times

10:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time

9:00 a.m. Yukon Standard Time

8:00 a.m. Alaskan and Hawaiian  
Standard Times

7:00 a.m. Bering Standard Time

### Bell Ringing Recruiters Needed Now!

Joining *Let Freedom Ring’s* “Grass Roots Recruiting Army” is another great way to help us increase participation in the National Bell Ringing Ceremony. Go to the Website ([www.let-freedom-ring.org](http://www.let-freedom-ring.org)), click on “Let Freedom Ring” where you can complete and submit the Recruitment Form. Please be sure to clearly fill it out with the information for the bell ringing institutions you recruit. If you would like to contact us by e-mail you can reach us at [lfr@amrev.org](mailto:lfr@amrev.org)

*Let Freedom Ring* is one of the free events in Philadelphia’s weeklong extravaganza celebrating America’s birthday in America’s birth place.

Be sure to visit our website  
[www.let-freedom-ring.org](http://www.let-freedom-ring.org)  
for more information  
click on *Let Freedom Ring™*

*“This Project was financed [in part] by a grant from the Commonwealth of  
Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development”*

