BARBERSHOP CLASSICS

WORDS & MUSIC

Ray Gilbert

Edward "Kid" Ory

ARRANGEMENT

Rex Reeve

and

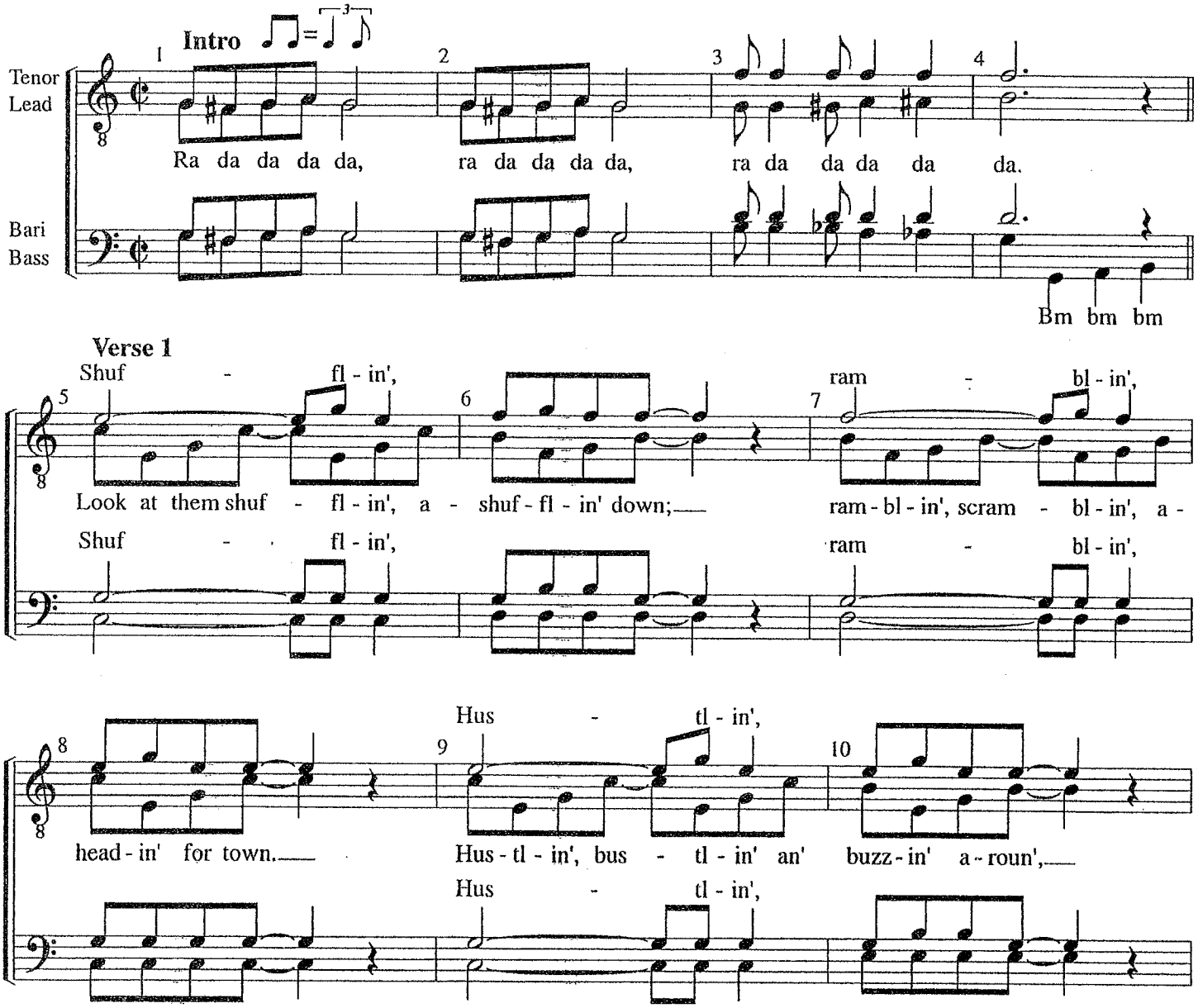
SPEBSQSA

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.

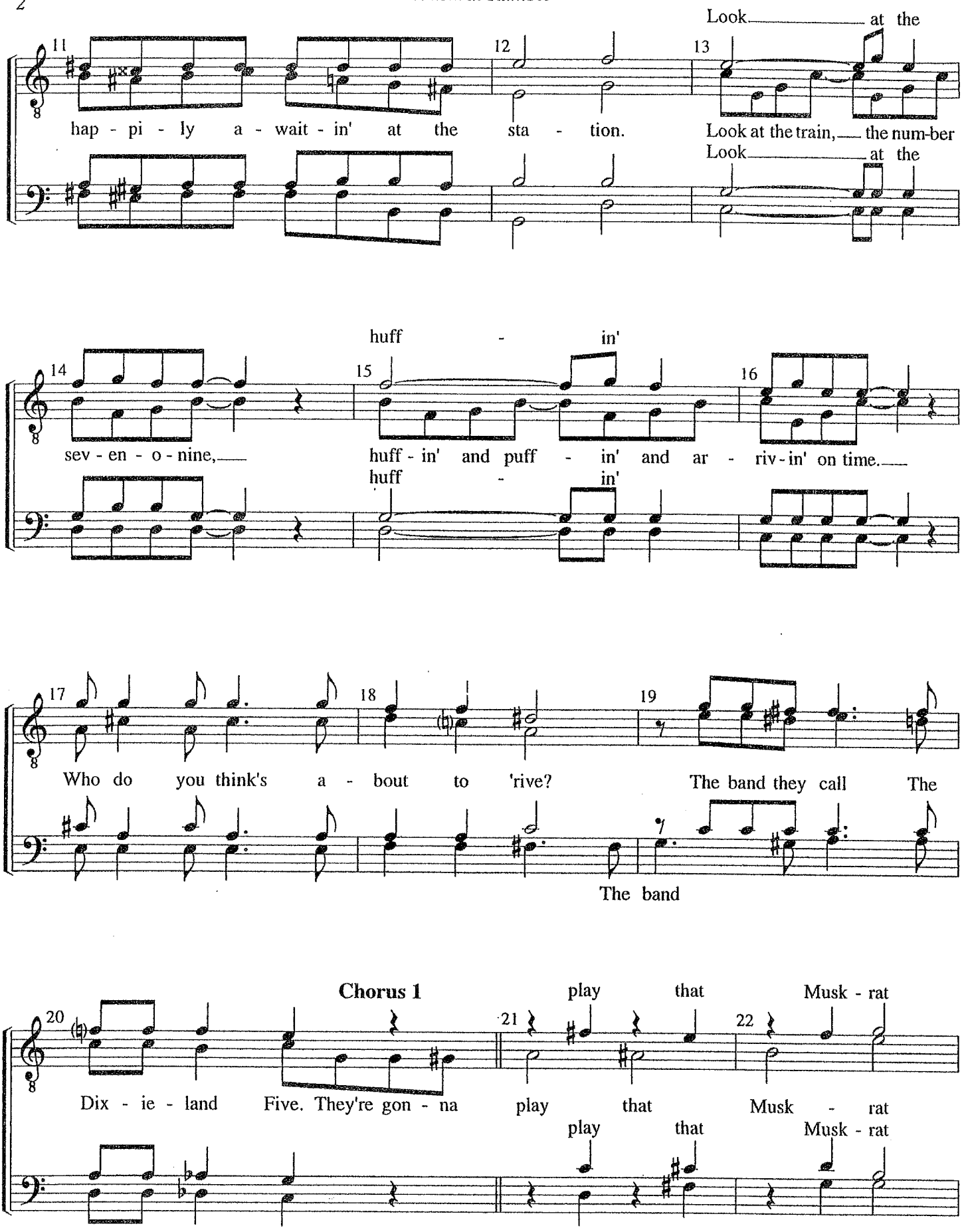
6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143-5199 • 800-876-SING • www.spebsqsa.org

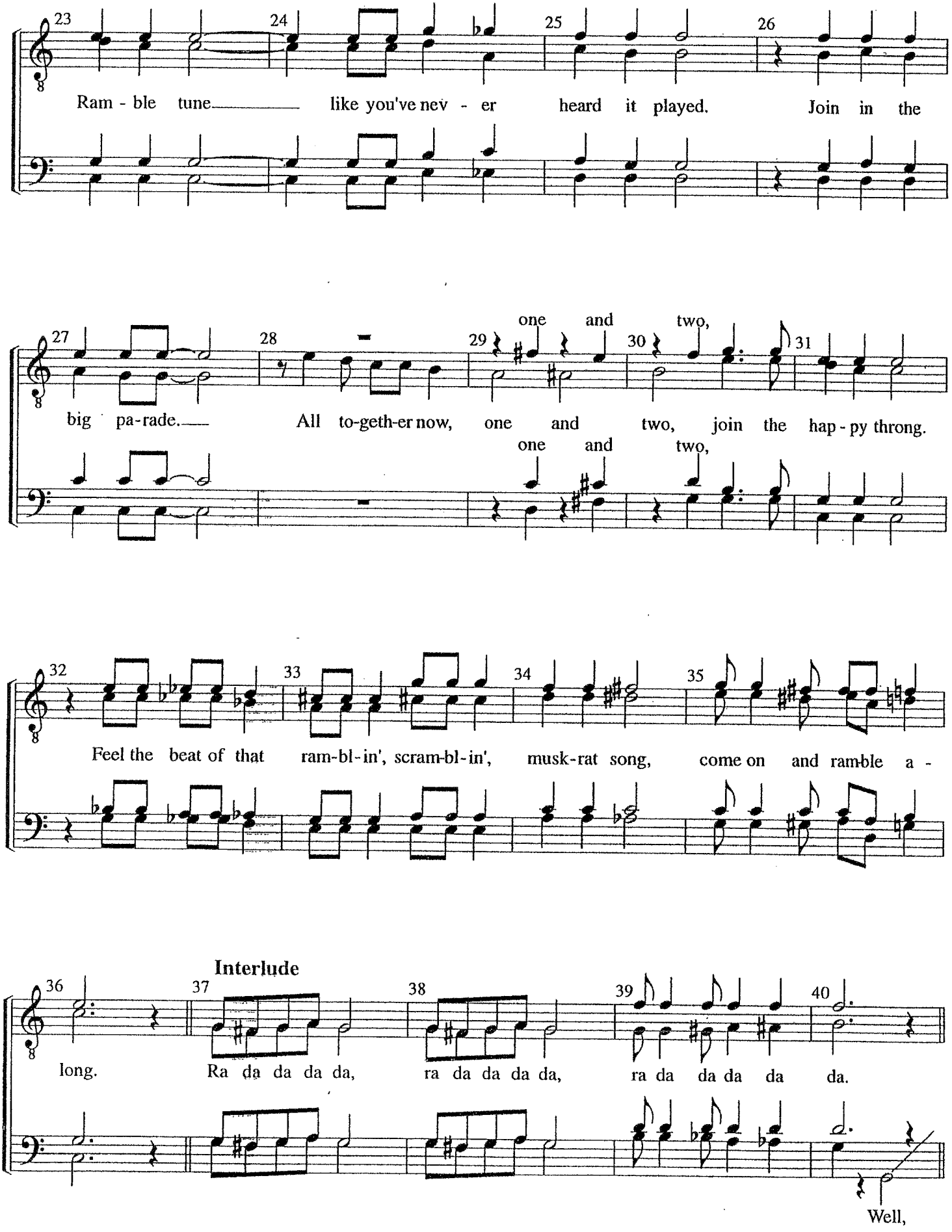
Muskrat Ramble

STOCK NO. 7362

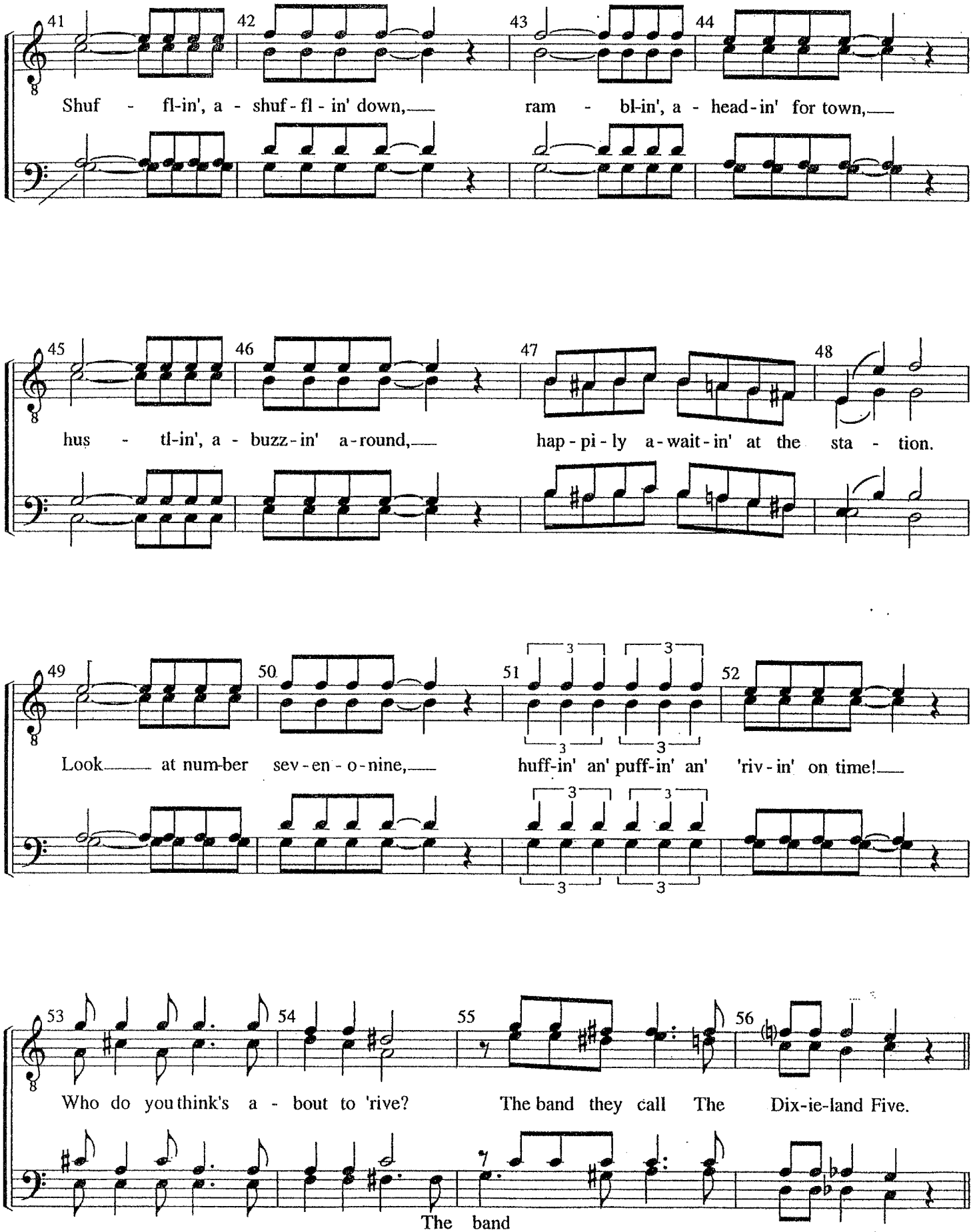


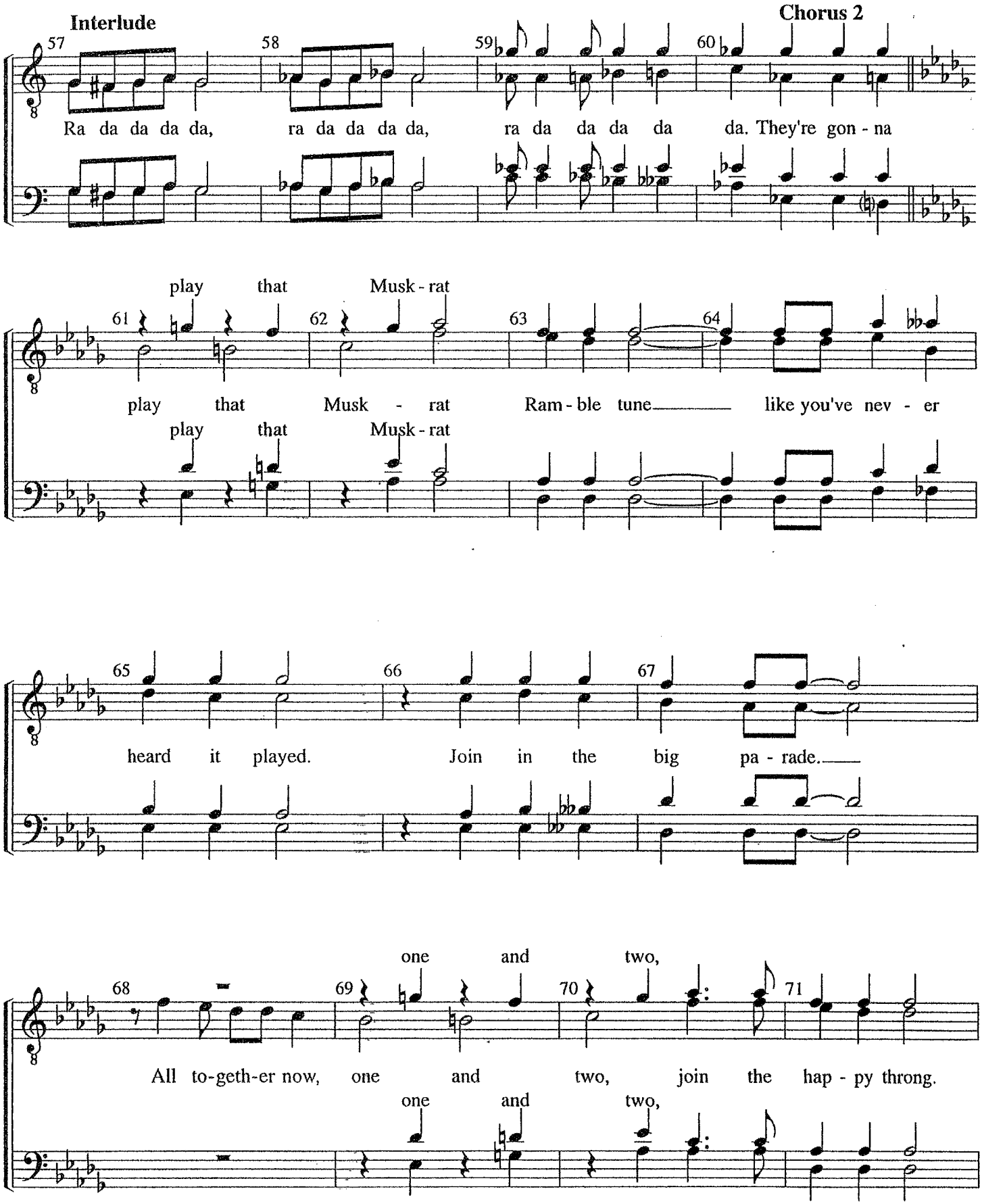
©1926, 1937, 1950 GEORGE SIMON, INC.
Copyrights Renewed. Rights for the Extended Renewal Term in the United States.
Controlled by GEORGE SIMON, INC. and JANIERO MUSIC COMPANY
All Rights Reserved

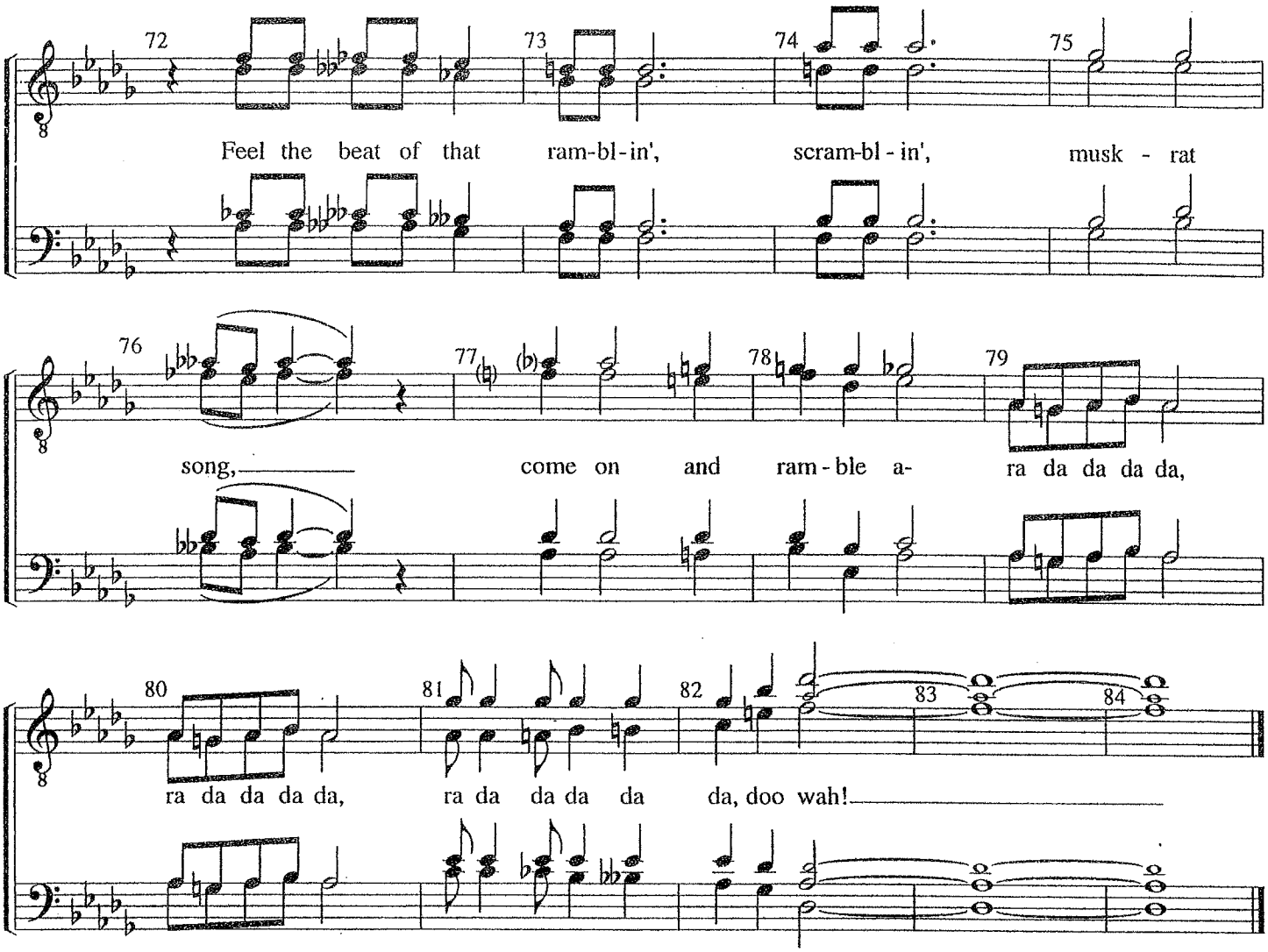

11
12
13
Look at the
hap - pi - ly a - wait - in' at the sta - tion.
Look at the train, the num-ber
Look at the
14
15
16
huff - in'
sev - en - o - nine,
huff - in' and puff - in' and ar - riv - in' on time.
huff - in'
17
18
19
Who do you think's a - bout to 'rive?
The band they call The
The band
Chorus 1
20
21
22
play that Musk - rat
Dix - ie - land Five. They're gon - na play that Musk - rat
play that Musk - rat


23
24
25
26
Ram - ble tune like you've nev - er heard it played. Join in the
27
28
29
30
31
one and two,
big pa-rade. All to-geth-er now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.
one and two,
32
33
34
35
Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', scram-bl-in', musk-rat song, come on and ramble a -
Interlude
36
37
38
39
40
long. Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da da.
Well,

Verse 2


41 42 43 44
Shuf - fl-in', a - shuf - fl - in' down, ram - bl-in', a - head - in' for town,
45 46 47 48
hus - tl-in', a - buzz - in' a - round, hap - pi - ly a - wait - in' at the sta - tion.
49 50 51 52
Look at num-ber sev - en - o - nine, huff-in' an' puff-in' an' 'riv - in' on time!
53 54 55 56
Who do you think's a - bout to 'rive? The band they call The Dix-ie-land Five.
The band


Interlude
Chorus 2
57
58
59
60
Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da. They're gon - na
play that Musk - rat
61
62
63
64
play that Musk - rat Ram - ble tune like you've nev - er
play that Musk - rat
65
66
67
heard it played. Join in the big pa - rade.
one and two,
68
69
70
71
All to-geth-er now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.
one and two,



Performance Notes

Edward "Kid" Ory, composer, author, conductor, trombonist, was born December 25, 1886 in La Place, Louisiana and died in 1973. His was the first New Orleans band to broadcast and record. He wrote "Muskrat Ramble" as an instrumental piece. Ray Gilbert, composer, author, was born September 15, 1912 in Hartford, Connecticut and died in 1976. Gilbert provided the lyrics to "Muskrat Ramble" and it became very popular around 1926. Gilbert wrote special material for a number of great performers including Sophie Tucker, and was under contract for three and a half years to Walt Disney. He wrote many hits including "Zip-A-Dee Doo-Dah" (1947 Academy Award winner), "You Belong To My Heart," "Sooner or Later"," Everybody Has a Laughing Place" and "Cuanto le Gusto."

The Four Teens, 1952 international quartet champion, and youngest quartet to ever achieve gold medal status, first brought an arrangement of "Muskrat Ramble" to the barbershop scene around 1953. The arrangement was fashioned after **The McGuire Sisters'** version. They and The Four Teens had been on the Arthur Godfrey Show together. When Don Lamont, baritone of the Four Teens, left to go to college in 1954, he was replaced by Rex Reeve, bari of the Serenaders, fourth place medalists 1952. Rex put the arrangement on paper and added a few touches. It has since undergone more editing and is hereby published by the Society.

This arrangement demands an uptempo performance. The melody bounces around; it was, after all, written for instruments, so it requires good clarity and agility in the voice. Maintain a solid beat throughout. If the tenor note is too high at the end, use the alternate voicing for the baritone and tenor.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.