

DOWN WHERE THE SWANEE RIVER FLOWS

1916

as sung by TOWN & COUNTRY FOUR
1963 INTERNATIONAL QUARTET CHAMPION

Words by CHARLES McCARRON
(1891-1919)
and CHARLES ALBERTE (-)

Music by ALBERT VON TILZER
(1878-1956)
Arrangement by LARRY AUTENREITH

When Jack Elder, Leo Sisk and Ralph Anderson got together with arranger Larry Autenreith for the first time back in 1955, it was with the thought that "Someday, we're going to be champs." After all, the 1948 champion **Pittsburghers** were members of the same chapter. And Jack's dad, "Pete," had sung with the four-time medalist **Westinghouse Quartet**. What better inspiration and coaching help could a quartet ask for?

It took a few years, a switch in voice parts between Larry and Jack, a Johnny Appleseed District championship in 1958, and six international competitions to rise from 28th place to the top. The **Town and Country Four** did seem to enjoy second place, however, gathering three silver medals before taking the big one in Toronto in 1963.

"T & C" gave us many memories before their retirement in 1967. Who can forget Ralph's hauntingly beautiful solo on "The Lord Is Good To Me"? Or the quartet's renditions of "Daddy, You've Been A Mother To Me," "I Only Want A Buddy — Not A Sweetheart," "When My Sugar Walks Down The Street" or "Down Where The Swanee River Flows" as sung by the Town and Country Four in Philadelphia in 1961. You may hear these performances on the official contest recordings from 1959 through 1962.

Town and Country Four always exemplified the best barbershopping spirit. They wore their medals proudly. They were always active in chapter administration, coaching other quartets, and in many other less-noticeable ways. Their motto seemed to be "Give to others, that they may enjoy barbershopping as much as we have."

Verse: 

Tenor Lead

Baritone Bass

to - day

I had a big sur-prise— to-day while in a to-day

ten - cent pho-to - play, I real-ly saw my old home-town



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