

Cape Cod Shanty

The Composer

Dan Adams is retired from the Wooster City Schools in Wooster, Ohio, where he served as Band and Orchestra director and Instrumental Music Coordinator for nearly three decades. Prior to Wooster he taught at Mount Anthony Union High School in Bennington, Vermont.

He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University (major instrument trombone) and a Master of Music in Band Conducting from Northwestern University where he studied with John Paynter.

Adams has decades of experience as an adjudicator, brass musician, and conductor. Present and past memberships include the Ohio Music Education Association, NAFME, ASCAP, College Band Directors National Association, and American Federation of Musicians Local 159.

Performance Concerns

- A ship's bell is preferred. If not available, play as written on the chimes (4th line D).
- At measure 83 the indication of "in 1" refers merely to how it is conducted - no time change, just the feel of the pulse.
- If you have one, a nice, deep field drum would sound great for the snare drum part.

Program Notes

Centuries-old sea shanties made the drudgery and monotony of a sailor's work more tolerable. Sung on the decks of merchant, fishing, or whaling ships, these often colorful songs have become an important part of our folk music history.

Cape Cod Shanty is a full orchestra arrangement of "Cape Cod Girls", a call-and-response song with some interesting lyrics. If you were seaman, you surely would have sung many creative verses. Here are some that have survived generations:

Cape Cod girls don't use no combs
Heave away, haul away!
They comb their hair with codfish bones
And we're bound for Australia!

CHORUS:
Heave her up me bully, bully boys
Heave away, haul away!
Heave her up and don't you make a noise
And we're bound for Australia!

Cape Cod ships ain't got no sails
Heave away, haul away!
They'd all blown off in the Northeast gales
And we're bound for Australia!

CHORUS

Cape Cod boys ain't got no sleds
Heave away, haul away!
They slide down hills on codfish heads
And we're bound for Australia!

CHORUS

Cape Cod girls ain't got no frills
Heave away, haul away!
They tie their hair with codfish gills
And we're bound for Australia!

CHORUS