The Network Strathspey

By Kent Smith (USA)

A 32-bar strathspey for 3 couples in a 4-couple longwise set

BARS

DESCRIPTION

- 1–4 1st and 2nd couples dance right hands across, finishing with 1st man and 2nd woman retaining right hands and 1st woman and 2nd man facing out.
- 5–8 1st man and 2nd woman, giving right hands, turn approximately three-quarters round to face out on own sides, 1st man in 2nd man's place and 2nd woman in 1st woman's place. They then cast to original places, man up, woman down. Meanwhile, 1st woman and 2nd man cast one place, man up and woman down, then turn approximately three-quarters round giving right hand to finish in original places. At the end, all dancers continue facing clockwise.
- 9–16 1st and 2nd couples dance the Engrenage (action of gears):
 - 9–10 1st and 2nd couples dance four hands round halfway to opposite sides.
 - 11–12 Taking hands on the sides, they set.
 - The men separating and the woman staying beside each other, all dance in to form a line of four up and down the dance, 1st couple joining right hands, 2nd couple joining left hands.
 - 14–15 1st couple turn once round giving right hands **while** 2nd couple turn once round giving left hands.
 - All dance out to own sides in progressed positions, men turning toward each other and women turning away from each other.

Finish with 1st couple facing out in second place.

- 17–24 All three couples dance reels of three on the sides, 1st and 2nd men and 1st and 3rd women passing right shoulders to begin. To enter the reel, 2nd couple turn left about (long way for the woman and short way for the man.) On bars 23–24, 1st couple dance toward each other up and down the set and turn giving right hands to finish shoulder to shoulder facing 1st corners.
- 1st couple and first corners dance corner pass and turn: 1st couple dance out to first corner positions, turn right about, dance in and pass right shoulders to face second corners **while** first corners dance into the center (1 bar), turn giving right hands to face their corner positions (1 bar), and dance out to places (2 bars).
- 29–32 1st couple and second corners dance corner pass and turn. At the end, 1st couple pass right shoulders to finish in second place on own sides.
 - Repeat, having passed a couple.

From the Deviser

»I devised the Engrenage after a discussion of the Tournée on the Strathspey list server several years ago.«