

## BICENTENNIAL REEL

by Ted Sannella

Formation: Contra lines, 1, 3, 5, etc., couples active and crossed over.

Music: Any well phrased 64 count Reel.

To prompt this dance:

Intro - - - - , With couple below right hand star  
 1-8 - - - - , Just the ladies do sa do  
 9-16 - - - - , Same four circle left  
 17-24 - - - - , All swing your partner -  
 25-32 - - - - , Face down down in twos  
 33-40 - - Wheel turn, - - back to place  
 41-48 - - Actives cast off, others wheel turn circle left half\*  
 49-56 - - Pass thru, - - do sa do

\* Caller indicates CROSS OVER every second and alternate sequence through the dance.

As the dancers learn the figure, less prompting is necessary.  
 For example:

57-64 - - - - , - - Right hand star  
 1-8 - - - - , - - Ladies do sa do  
 9-16 - - - - , - - Circle left  
 17-24 - - - - , - - Swing  
 25-32 - - - - , - - Down in twos  
 33-40 - - - Wheel, - - - back  
 41-48 - - Cast and wheel, - - circle half  
 49-56 - - Pass thru, - - do sa do

Authors note: The progression action of "Actives cast off while others wheel turn" was originated by Don Armstrong and found first in a dance named "Roadrunner". Contras using this action, and following it with a "Circle four to the left" are incorporating a smooth and flowing action within the traditional choreographic structure.

Ted Sannella introduced this danced in New England and, in doing so, was totally in keeping with the introduction of 'new' dances to commemorate historic events, victories etc. Many traditional contras were first presented in this fashion.