

Waves of Tory

an English "country dance"

MUSIC: "Waves of Tory" on LP "Facing the Music"

FORMATION: 4-6 couples arranged:



M have high handhold ("W") with each other and W have high handhold ("W") with each other.

STYLE: Lively

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Counts

I. FIRST FIGURE

- 1-8 "Forward and back a double:" M and W take three steps toward each other (1,2,3), touch free ft near other ft and greet each other (4). Repeat walking away from each other (5,6,7) and touch free ft near other ft (8).
- 9-16 "Right hand star:" Two and two couples, numbered from the top, put R hands together in center and walk around CW 8 steps until they are back in place.
- 17-24 "Forward and back a double:" Taking hands again, repeat cts 1-8.
- 25-32 "Left hand star:" Two and two couples (again numbered from the top) put L hands together in the center and walk around CCW 8 steps until they are back in place.

(This dance is best with 5 couples. In that case, the bottom couple dances "as if" there was a 6th couple, that is they do "Right hand star" and "Left hand star" as a couple, not as a group of 4.)

II. SECOND FIGURE

- 1-8 "First couple down the center and back:" Top couple takes hands and gallops sideways 4 gallop-steps down and 4 gallop-steps back up to the top, while the other dancers clap in time with the music.
- 9-16 "Cast off:" All look up (toward the top) and all M follow first M and all W follow first W (First M and W are those who just galloped down the center and back.) as they turn out and away from each other and lead their lines down to the bottom of the set.
- 17-24 "Make an arch:" First M and W take both hands, making an arch approximately where the bottom couple were.
- 25-32 "All come through:" Partners meet each other, take each others hand, go under the arch formed by the first couple and go all the way to the top. (Second cpl is now at top, then third cpl and so on, first cpl temporarily at bottom.)

III. THIRD FIGURE

- 1-32 "The Wave" (also known among contra dancers as "Dip and Dive"): All cpls look down the set except the original first cpl who look up. All couples hold nearest hand with each other. All cpls begin to walk down the set, except the original first cpl, who duck under the hands of the first cpl they meet, let the next cpl they meet duck under their hands and so on. Note! When a cpl gets either to the top or bottom of the set they do not stop, but rather turn around (changing hands at the same time) and continue doing the wave movement until the melody begins again.

(When the dance begins again, the cpls are in an arbitrary order, so they must quickly analyze their new position to ascertain which cpl they will soon dance the "Stars" of the First Figure with.)

*Dance description by Lee Otterholt
Presented by Lee Otterholt at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival 2002*