

WILLOW TREE USA

(A "double" reel)

FORMATION: EIGHT COUPLES IN REEL OR SET POSITION (MEN ON THE LEFT WHEN FACING HEAD OF HALL). COUPLES FACING EACH OTHER, FIVE OR SIX FEET APART. THERE IS ONLY A SHORT ONE-NOTE INTRO TO THE MUSIC. COUPLES ONE AND EIGHT READY TO START.

COUNT

- 1-8 Couple No. 1 joins hands and sidesteps briskly down the center to the other end, where the man leaves the woman,
- 9-16 and joins hands with woman No. 8, to sidestep back to his original position.
- 17-32 Man No. 8 joins hands with woman No. 1 (now opposite him) and does the reverse of counts 1-16, to regain his original partner and position.
- 1-32 Couples No. 1 and 8 both reel in from either end toward the center, using right elbows to turn clockwise with partner, left elbows to turn counterclockwise with the person on the side. They turn first with partner (four counts) then with side (four counts), and alternate, with a final four-count turn with partner at the center, for a total of 28 counts. The next (final) four counts are used to form the "willow-tree", a square in the center of the set formed by couples one and eight, with joined hands raised high, open at the sides and toward each end. } 2
- 1-16 Couples 2 and 7 cast off from either end, coming down the outside toward the "willow tree" at the center. The men enter the willow tree on their side, the women on theirs, with partners joining and exiting out the end to return to their positions before casting off. There they do a buzz step starting as each arrives at their position, and
- 1-16 continuing the buzz step, stopping in time to back away from each other so the (new) couples 1 and 8 start the dance over by side-steppin g down the center.

THE MUSIC CONTINUES UNTIL ALL HAVE HAD A TURN. AT THE END, PARTNERS BOW AND CURTSEY TO EACH OTHERS.