

WIWAT KAROLINKA  
(Poland)

Pronunciation: VEE-vaht kah-roh-LEEN-kah

Wiwat Karolinka (Long Live Little Caroline) is a couple dance in 2/4 time from the region of Wielkopolska. In the olden times, the valleys of the rivers Odra and Wisła were inhabited by Slavic tribes. The tribe which settled on the Warta river (a tributary of the Odra) was called Polanie. The Polanie united most of the tribes between the Oder and the Vistula. From them Poland took her name. Later, the part in which the Polanie lived became known as the Wielkopolska (Greater Poland). For centuries Wielkopolska was a bordering region of Germany, hence considerable German influence in her folklore. Wielkopolska is composed of several folklore regions, each having a characteristic costume of their own. This dance comes from Biskupizna (bee-skoo-PEEZ-nah), which means bishop's estates. Since the beginning of the XIII century, this province was the property of the Poznań bishop, who had his summer residence in Krobia. A characteristic and unusual part of the traditional attire of a man from Biskupizna is a whip, ornamented with a kerchief. Even when dancing with a partner he holds it in his right hand. Loud cracking of the whips is a very impressive part of some of the men's dances. The use of the whip in dancing and even in some family rituals is explained by the love of the horse by the people from that region. There are several dances from Wielkopolska called "wiwat" (from the polonized Latin word "vivat"). Ada learned this one in Poznań, in the Winter of 1976/77, from Jacek Marek, noted authority of Wielkopolska folklore.

Record: XM-46755 "Easy Dances from Poland," side B, band 1.  
2/4 meter.

Formation: Cpls around a circle, M facing out, ptrs facing each other, in closed social dance pos, with the traditional roles reversed: M - place your R arm on ptr's upper back (shldr blades region), W - with your L arm hold ptr in waist; outside hands joined the regular way and extended to side.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION

1-2 No action.

- 1 I. MOVE SDWD IN LOD AND RLOD. (Melody A - 5 meas repeated)  
With a preliminary small flex of both knees and a slight sdwd bend of torso in LOD, beg outside ft (M L, W R), dance sdwd in LOD one step-together (cts 1,2).
- 2-4 Repeat action of meas 1 three more times (four times in all).
- 5 With one stamp and one step (M - L,R, W - R,L) make a 1/2 CW turn in place, (M will now face in, W out) (cts 1,2).

WIWAT KAROLINKA (continued)

- 6-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 with same ftwk but moving in RLOD.  
 10 Repeat action of meas 5 (cpl returns to starting pos).

- 1-12 II. POLKA AROUND THE ROOM. (Melody B - 6 meas repeated)  
 Beginning outside ft, with small, flat steps dance 12 turning polkas, moving in LOD, and making a 1/2 CW turn with each polka step; after several turns M may add a stamp (L ft) on ct 2 of each odd meas (5, 7, 9, etc.).

Repeat the entire dance three more times (four times in all).

Dance introduced in the Summer of 1981 at the Stockton and the San Diego Folk Dance Camps in California by Ada Dziewanowska. Please do not reproduce these directions without her permission.

Presented by Ada Dziewanowska