

Dashing White Sergeant

Music: Imperial Record No. 1005

This dance has been described by the California Folk Dance Federation in their publication "Let's Dance"; I'm not sure, but I assume that their description derives from one of the descriptions published in the Scotch Country Dance Society series. The version here given differs slightly; the public at large not always following written descriptions which often reflect a dance as it was done in a past generation. This description is as done by a number of Scotch groups here in the East at their gatherings.

Formation. Preferably, a ring of facing trios around the room; if there is not enough dancers or enough room for this, a column of trios alternately facing the bottom and top of the room. In the last case a trio reaching the top or bottom of the column, turns to face the column again and waits once through the figures and then starts anew. The trios may be a man with two girls or a girl with two men; the odd person in the middle of the trio.

- A. Facing trios join hands in a circle of six and circle to the left, a walking step on the ball of the foot . . . bars 1-4.
- B. Circle to the right . . . bars 5-8.
- C. Center person face the person on their right in the trio and they "set" (leap to the right on the right foot, bring the left toe to the floor beside the right instep; pause. Repeat, leaping to the left . . . bars 9-10.
- D. Center and right hand persons turn with right elbows joined . . . bars 11-12.
- E. Center person repeats (C.) but with left hand person . . . bars 13-14.
- F. Center and left hand persons turn, left elbows joined . . . bars 15-16.
- G. The trios dance a "figure 8", starting with the center and right hand persons passing right shoulders; the right and left hand persons then pass left shoulders in the center; this weaving is continued until all are back in place . . . bars 17-24.
- H. Trios join hands in their own line, forward and back . . . bars 25-26.
- I. Forward again, dropping hands to pass through the facing trio (pass right shoulders with facing person) to face a new trio. All honor . . . bars 29-32.

Dance is repeated at pleasure.

I presume I will be criticised in some quarters for publishing a "different" version of this number; however I believe that the notation of variations should not be neglected when they have any basis among transplanted ethnic groups.