FLACHSERNTEN (German)

Flachserten, which tells of the harvesting of the flax, was introduced by Waltraud Herrmann. The melody originally came from Sweden, but the text, verse and dance are from northern Germany.

MUSIC: Record: Gaare 104 "Fiddler's Waltz" (substitute). Slow speed considerably.

FORMATION: Circle of couples, all facing center, W to R of M, all hands joined at shoulder height.

STEPS: Walk waltz: three walking steps to each measure

Note: This step is used throughout the entire dance.

MUSIC: 3/4

Measures	Pattern
4	INTRODUCTION
1-4	I. Circle L - Circle R.Circle L (CW) with 4 walk waltz steps.Circle R (CCW)
	CHORUS
9-12	Partners face to start a Grand R and L. Give R to partner, L to the next, and R to the next. Keeping R hand (with this 3rd person) dance a full turn around CW to face opp. direction (W are now facing CCW; M CW).
13-16	Continue Grand R and L (in this reverse direction) giving L, R, L keeping L joined with this last person and dancing a full turn CCW to end in original position. (Leaning away from each person throughout Chorus adds to the swing.)
1–4	II. The Hatchel (Combing the Flax) With 4 walk waltz steps W dance CW around partner, while M mark time in place. Man dance CW around partner while W mark time stepping in place.
	CHORUS

CHORUS

9-16 Repeat action of Chorus, Fig.I, meas. 9-16.

1-2	III. Spinning With 2 walk waltz steps move twd ctr and join hands at shoulder level.
3-4	Circle L.

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Circle R. 5-6 With 2 walk waltz steps, W dance bwd to place. M, with 7-8 hands on hips, spin CW in place during entire Fig. III, meas. 1-8. CHORUS Repeat action of Chorus, Fig. I, meas. 9-16 9 - 16IV. Weaving With 2 walk waltz step, W move twd center and join hands. M 1-2 move twd center and duck under arches made by W joined hands; then M join hands bringing them over W heads to rest at back of W necks. With 4 walk waltz steps all move slowly bwd, smoothly and 5-8 gradually releasing hand holds. Note: Throught this entire figure dancing is continuous, smooth and flowing. CHORUS Repeat action of Chorus, Fig I, meas 9-16 9-16 Repeat entire dance. 64 meas. CODA Repeat action of Fig. I, meas. 1-16