

KREUZKOENIG

(King of Clubs)

This German dance has long been a favorite among American Folk dancers and it has been done in "many different ways". The choreographer of the dance was Ludwig Burkhardt.

It was presented by Paul and Gretel Dunsing.

The dance should basically be danced with measured reticence. The transitions of the different dance patterns must be well harmonized. Parts A, C.D are to be danced calmly with controlled strength (not boisterously) Running steps change with Mazurka steps and give swing to the Kreuzkoenig. Part B, the STRAIGHT CHAIN

has faster music but allows ample time for the execution of the figure with hop-steps. "The flying figure" (meas. 1-8 repetition) has never been intended to be used widely.

RECORD: MH 1022 FOLK DANCER

STEPS: Grapevine step; running step; mazurka steps Music:
3/4 time

FORMATION: Two couples, joining hands in a circle

Part A

Measures

- 1-4 Starting on left foot do one grapevine (facing center) that is step left sideways, step right behind left, left sideways and right in front of left and follow with eight running steps CW, facing slightly into CW direction.
- 5-8 repeat 1-4 at the end quickly take open hip-shoulder position with partner, M join left arms with an elbow hook. In this position small running steps forward.
- rep. Drop hold, W take a small step sideways to the right and turn to face M.

Continued...

Measures

PART B

- 9-16 STRAIGHTCHAIN (Straight hey) done with hop-steps(hop-waltz)
 9-10 M change places by giving left hands to each other, passing by left shoulders, W hop in place adjusting to meet M with righthands (two hop-walts steps)
 11-12 M join right hands with other W; pass right shoulder (in a wide circular movement) with two hop-steps (hop-waltz) bringing the W to the inside
 13-14 W join left hands in center, pass each other by left shoulders with two hop-waltz steps while M hop in place adjusting position to meet W
 15-16 Join right hands with own partner and change places. MEN ARE AGAIN ON THE INSIDE, ready to do the repetition.

NOTE: THERE IS MUCH TIME TO EXECUTE THIS STRAIGHT CHAIN AND CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO HAVE A WIDE CIRCULAR MOVEMENT WHEN EXCHANGING PLACES, ESPECIALLY WHEN ROUNDING THE END OF THE LINE.

- 9-16 repetition as above b u t with meas. 15-16 M pulls his partner (right hands joined, arms stretched) to his right side, steps a small step to the left, lets go of her right hand and immediately takes her left hand. A l l f o u r then join hands in a circle four. She does a half turn left as she swings to his side.

CIRCLE FOUR AND CIRCLE

PART C

- TWO
 17-20 Starting on left do four Mazurkasteps CW release hold with corner and
 21-22 join both hands forward with partner, two Mazurkasteps CW
 23-24 followed by six running steps; THEN JOIN HANDS IN A CIRCLE FOUR
 17-22 repetition: as above -smooth transitions from circle to circle
 23-24 are important - thenrunning steps as above but use the last t h r e e steps to change from circle in two-hand position to right hands joined (straight arms) and lead W to center in such a way that they will be standing side by side, right shoulders adjacent, facing partner. M join left hands with other W.

PART D

RUNNING CW WITH EXCHANGING PLACES

- 25-28 Both M, leaning back a little with loosely stretched arms, run t w e l v e steps CW while the W turn almost in Place. M should dance as t a l l as possible "as if they were trying to look at each other above the W's heads."
 29-32 Drop left hands, M lead W to the outside - exchanging places with six running steps - Both W join left hands with other M's left hand and keep on running CW
 25-32 repetition keep running CW and exchanging places.

NOTE: THE EXCHANGING COMES ON THE F I R S T FEW RUNNING STEPS OF EVERY TWELVE STEPS. THEN FINISH THIS PART AS FOLLOWS:

- 29-32 AS ABOVE b u t on meas. 32 M make a right about face jump, landing to the r i g h t of their own partners, all join hands and start the dance again with the circle four with the other W as new partner.