Draft dances for The Unchained Link

by Terry Glasspool

The Space Coaster

A 32 bar strathspey for 4 couples.

In brief: Spurtle;

Set and link for four into four hands round at the ends; Unwind circles into lines on the sides which swirl to meet and then retire; All set, then link for two at the top and bottom.

- 1- 4 1's turn RH 1¼, moving down, to finish between 2C facing opposite side.
- 5-16 1's dance the Spurtle Progression with 2C, 3C, and 4C in turn to finish in the order 2 3 4 1, all on opposite side. (As in *The Golden Wedding Strathspey*, bars 25 - 36.)
- 17-24 All set on the sides (17 18) and dance a four couple variation of the link for three:

(19 - 21) 2W & 1M approach in the middle of the set, turn LH ½, then 2W curves back towards the top of the dance and 1M toward the bottom, <u>while</u> the other three women pull back RS to cast up individually and chase, 3W 4W 1W, behind the men's side and across the top of the dance, <u>while</u> the other three men pull back RS to cast down individually and chase, 4M 3M 2M, behind the women's side and across the bottom of the dance.

(22 - 24) The four women at the top, also the four men at the bottom, dance four hands round, about ³/₄. Toward the end of bar 24 2W and 1M (the "left-hand leaders," who turned and joined the circle from the middle of the dance) release LH.

W should be just above first place, 1M just below fourth place, on own sides. 25-28 Retaining hands in lines of four, 2W leads her line down behind the women's side of the dance for two bars <u>while</u> 1M leads his line up behind the men's side.

(27) Lines, still moving clockwise, advance to meet partner in the middle of the dance.

- (28) Lines retire straight back to the sides.
- The order is now 1 4 3 2, all on own side.
- 29-32 All set (in lines of four on the side of the dance, dropping hands in the middle of the lines during bar 30) then link for two at the top and bottom of the lines to finish 4 1 2 3.

Repeat from new positions.

For James Kutzner, of Melbourne, FL.