

TOGETHER FOR FORTY YEARS

32 bar strathspey for 3 couples in a 4-couple set

by Tim Wilson, 2018*

- 1-8 1st woman dances below 1st man, up behind him, and back to place. 1st woman, followed by her partner, casts off two places, she dances across to third place on the men's side as 1st man dances into third place on the women's side. 2nd and 3rd couples step up on bars 7-8.
- 9-16 2nd, 3rd, and 1st couples dance a modified grand chain.
- 9 change places giving right hands: 2nd couple (at top); 3rd woman and 1st man, and 3rd man and 1st woman (on sides)
- 10 change places giving left hands: 2nd and 1st men, and 2nd and 1st women (on sides); and 3rd couple (at third place)
- 11-12 turn once round with right hands to dance back: 1st couple (at top); 2nd and 3rd men, and 2nd and 3rd women (on sides)
- 13 change places giving left hands: 1st and 2nd men, and 1st and 2nd women (on sides); and 3rd couple (at third place)
- 14 change places giving right hands: 2nd couple (at top); 1st woman and 3rd man, and 1st man and 3rd woman (on sides)
- 15-16 turn left hands: 2nd and 3rd women, and 2nd and 3rd men (on sides); 1st couple (at third place). 1st couple finish in the center, still on opposite sides, and face up, nearer hands joined.
- 17-20 1st couple dance up the middle and cast off to second place on opposite sides. 3rd couple step down on bars 19-20.
- 21-24 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples turn partner with two hands to own side. 1st couple turn one-and-one-half times; 2nd and 3rd couples turn once round.
- 25-32 2nd and 1st couples dance the poussette right round.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Note: For Tom and Kathy Allen on the occasion of their 40th anniversary. Kathy gave me the gist of the dance—must have a flirtatious opening and a poussette. I hope the rest weds their appreciation of tradition with a nod to sociable and uncomplicated interactions. They've always been interested in getting new dancers on the floor, building community, and keeping things grounded in good humor.

* Corrections made to bars 9 and 14, and clarification to bars 15-16. TW-Nov. 14, 2018