

# HILLS OF HABERSHAM

by Mary and Fred Collette

**Formation:** Contra lines, 1, 3, 5, etc., couples active and crossed over.

**Music:** Shaw 181

**Note:** This contra is in Waltz rhythm, instructions are in measures not in counts.

**Measures: Actions and explanations:** ALL start on RIGHT foot.

- 1-4 ALL PASS THRU BALANCE RIGHT AND LEFT — All pass thru across the set (six steps), join hands and facing out balance first to right, then to left (six steps) using either a step-touch or a step-swing balance.
- 5-8 SOLO TURN FACE IN BALANCE RIGHT AND LEFT — Drop hands, each turns right in a small circular pattern of about four feet in diameter (six steps) to face in. Rejoin hands, balance right and left as above.
- 9-12 ALL PASS THRU AND BALANCE — As in Measures 1-4 above.
- 13-16 SOLO TURN AND BALANCE — As in Measures 5-8 above. All are back in original lines.
- 17-20 ACTIVES DOWN OUTSIDE BELOW TWO AND IN — Actives turn up and roll out to dance down the outsides of the set, pass two inactive persons, cut into the center face up and join inside hands with partner (twelve steps).
- 21-24 UP THE CENTER MAKE LINES OF FOUR BALANCE RIGHT AND LEFT — As always, starting right foot, actives dance up center to stand alongside the inactive couple who was immediately below them as they started down the outside (six steps), these four dancers make a line of four facing up to balance right and left.
- 25-28 ACTIVES WHEEL FULL AROUND FOURS BALANCE RIGHT AND LEFT — Inactives release the actives' hands and continue to face up. Actives, staying close to each other, wheel turn full around (man backing up, lady moving forward) to rejoin the line all facing up (six steps), all balance right and left.
- 29-32 ACTIVES CAST OFF BALANCE RIGHT AND LEFT — Actives release each other and cast off (six steps) into the long lines. *Progression* has been made, actives have moved down one place in line, inactives up. All join hands in long lines, balance right and left.
- Note:** Any dancer momentarily inactive maintains rhythm and motion by dancing small balance steps first to right and then to left. Callers should give the "cross at the head" call during measure 25 and not at end of dance.

To prompt this dance:

- Intro - - - ; - - - ; - - - ; All pass thru
- 1-4 - - - ; - Balance right; - and left; - solo turn
- 5-8 - - - ; - Balance right; - and left; all pass thru
- 9-12 - - - ; - Balance right; - and left; - solo turn
- 13-16 - - - ; - Balance right; - and left; - actives down outside
- 17-20 - - - ; - Below two; - - in; - up center
- 21-24 Lines of four; - balance right; - and left; - actives wheel
- 25-28 - - - ; - Balance right; - and left; cast off and balance\*

\*Caller indicates CROSS OVER every second and alternate sequence through the dance.

As the dancers learn the figure, less prompting is necessary. For example:

- 29-32 - - - ; - - - ; - - - ; Pass thru -
- 1-4 - - - ; - - Balance; - - - ; - - turn
- 5-8 - - - ; - - Balance; - - - ; - pass thru
- 9-12 - - - ; - - Balance; - - - ; - - turn
- 13-16 - - - ; - - Balance; - - - ; - actives down
- 17-20 - - - ; - - - ; - - in; - - up
- 21-24 - - - ; - Lines balance; - - - ; - actives wheel
- 25-28 - - - ; - - Balance; - - - ; cast off and balance

**Note:** The Collettes have contributed a "classic" dance to American Folk Dancing. Named for the Hills of Habersham in northern Georgia, this is a magnificent dance, and one that is loved by dancers everywhere.