

## GEESTLÄNDER QUADRILLE

GEESTLÄNDER QUADRILLE A dance in square formation created by the Geestländer Tanzkreis, which was directed for many years by Anna Helms Elasco, one of the foremost North German dance leaders. In her research she found the music to the dance but not the dance and so created a dance which had been a favorite of our early folk dance performing group in this country from about 1930 to 1942. The Geestländer Tanzkreis worked in Hamburg. Geestland means uplands behind the sea.

English description by Greta Lunsing. Please do not copy without written permission. out

Record: Tanz EP 58615 ( same as Fochringer Kontra)

Formation: Four couples in a square 1 faces the music, 2 opposite 1, 3 to the right of 1 and 4 opposite 3.

Steps: walking, galop, skips, hops, hop waltz, waltz,

Measures

1-8 Salutation couples 1 and 2 advance and retire, two slow steps fwd., (1 and 2) greet the opposite ( 3 and 4) two slow steps bkwd.(5-6) and greet you own partner in home position as side couples greet each other.

1-8 repetition side couples ( 3 and 4) do the same

continued

Measures

- 9-16 CIRCLE AND STAR At the end of the salutation W quickly turn to face out and all join hands to form a large circle. W four steps backward M two small steps fwd - arms remain straight and are about shoulder high - until W's back touch; return to circle W four steps fwd., M two steps backward. Release hold, make 1/2 turn (do not turn away from partner) so that now W are facing in and M are facing out.
- 9-16 repetition M walk backward with four steps, W with two steps fwd. until M's backs touch, then return to place and take the following position: M's back to center, W in front of him, join both hands fwd.
- 17-24 COUPLES GALLOP in LOD Gallop sideway (to M's left and W's right) to the next position (four gallop steps) and there circle in place with four skips (1-4) then on in LOD to the next place (5-8)
- 17-24 repetition continue to home place and land in position with W facing in and M standing behind partners, hands on their shoulders. Women have hands on hips
- 25-32 with repetition MEN GO VISITING M gallop with four gallop steps in LOD to the W on their right, stop behind her and look at each other over the right, then the left shoulder 1-4  
Repeat three more times moving in LOD.
- 33-40 COUPLES CHASE ACROSS with the last counts of part before head couples get into a position to face LOD, standing side by side with partners, M on the inside. Chase sideways to opposite places, couples passing each other face-to-face, four gallop steps, and with four steps W moving forward turn in opposite place to again face LOD. (Keep hands joined, W moves forward). Stand and wait while side couples chase across in the same way. (four gallop steps, four walking steps and wait)
- 33-40 Return home in the same manner. End in side by side position facing to center.
- 41-44 WOMEN TO CENTER with four steps join hands in circle and
- 45-48 hop l., r., l., r., l., r., each time placing free foot forward touching with toe at meas. 48 jump on both feet and raise joined hands to form arches.
- 49-54. MEN THRU ARCHES All M make 1/4 turn CW and follow # 1 who passes his partner's left side, the opposite W's left side (thru the arch formed by W 2 and 3), moving thru the arches and then turns right and moves into the circle of W thru the next arch, formed by W 3 and his own partner. He stands next to his partner on her left side, facing out until all other M (4, 2, and last 3) have taken their place. M turn - all dancers stop backward to form a large circle.
- 55-56 with repetition. Music changes to fast waltz tempo. With all hands joined two hop-waltz steps in place, with the next two waltz meas. W are transferred from M's right to his left. All start on left foot to make turning easier. Use waltz steps for the transfer. Repeat the above pattern until W are in home position. During the entire last part the men stay in place.
- 57-64