

## LOTT' IST TOD (Scandinavia)

This dance is performed at Swedish social gatherings both in the United States and abroad. Some form of it is found in almost every country, sometimes under other names such as *Raatikko*, or *Vanha Piika*, or *Storn Step Polka*, or *Ladita*. Two simple versions are described here.

### VERSION 1

**OPENING FORMATION:** Double circle with girls on outside, facing partners in ballroom fashion.

**PART 1: Meas. 1-2:** Boy starting on left foot, and girl starting on right foot, take 4 slow step-slides sideward.

**Meas. 3-4:** With 8 quick step-slides, move in the opposite direction.

**Meas. 5-8:** Repeat PART 1.



**PART 2: Meas. 9-16:** Couples do a plain polka around in the circle.

Repeat dance from the beginning.

### VERSION 2

**OPENING FORMATION:** Same as for Version 1.

**PART 1:** Instead of the 4 slow, sideward step-slides, couples walk briskly 7 steps forward and stamp on 7th step. Pause, then step-slide 8 steps back.

**PART 2:** Same as PART 2 in Version 1.

There is a legend that in this dance the first part represents men teasing women by dragging them to the mountain where all old maids go. The girls, therefore, should resist as the boys drag them forward in fun. In PART 2 boys and girls forget about the mountain and make merry in the polka.