

## THE RETIRING LASS

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

devised by Tim Wilson, 2009

- 1-4 1st woman dances below partner and around him by the right shoulder to end face-to-face in front of him.
- 5-6 1st woman retires just beyond own sideline as 1st man advances to the women's sideline.
- 7-8 1st woman casts off, followed closely by partner. They finish in the center of the dance, 1st man behind 1st woman, to face 3rd man. 2nd couple step up.
- 9-12 1st couple dance half of an alternating tandem reel of three with 2nd corners, left shoulder to 3rd man to begin. 1st woman leads out; 1st man leads in to face 2nd man.
- 13-16 1st couple dance half of an alternating tandem reel of three with 1st corners, left shoulder to 2nd man to begin. 1st man leads out; 1st woman leads in. 1st couple end shoulder to shoulder facing out 2nd place on the women's side (man above his partner).
- 17-20 1st couple give left hands to cross out through the women's side, 1st woman dances out and up round top woman's place and then down towards second place on her own side, as 1st man dances down and out below 3rd woman's place and then up toward second place on his own side. Meanwhile, 3rd and 2nd couples dance half rights and lefts (no polite turns).
- 21-24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples turn with right hands.
- 25-32 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance six hands round and back.

Repeat, having passed a couple.

**Note:** Mark Caplin requested a dance to celebrate the retirement of his partner, Eileen Richey, from nursing at San Francisco General Hospital. Eileen brings a great deal of warmth and joy to the set as she dances. I've noticed her fondness for dances with chases. But Eileen's not fussy at all, she enjoys being on either side of the action.