FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA DANCE RESEARCH COMMITTEE:
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LET'S DANCE
April 1990

Belle of Bon Accord
(Scotland)

The Belle of Bon Accord is a 32 bar strathspey devised by John Drewry and introduced by C. Stewart Smith at the 1972 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.


SCORE: Piano tune: "The Bonnie Lass o' Bon Accord" played with a variation of the tune for each turn of the dance. See "The Scottish Violinist," page 1 for Scott Skinner's variations (Bayley and Ferguson). 4/4 meter

FORMATION: Set of 4 cpls in longways formation. Cpls are numbered from 1 to 4 with Cpl 1 twd head of the hall, free hands at sides.

PATTERNS, STEPS and STYLING:
Strathspey travelling step*, strathspey setting step*, cast down*, cast up*, hands across*, reel of four*.
Use travelling step throughout (and always beg R) unless otherwise stated.

*Described in the Scottish Glossary of the Steps & Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., Inc.

MUSIC 4/4 meter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>INTRODUCTION</th>
<th>M bow, W curtsey.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chord &amp; Upbeat</td>
<td>I. CROSS AND CAST; RIGHT HANDS ACROSS</td>
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<td>1-4 W 1 dance down the ctr between Cpl 2, cross over to M side, cast up behind M 2 and dance into the ctr of the set. M 1 simultaneously dance straight across the set, cast down behind W 2 and dance into the ctr of the set. Cpl 3 dance likewise around Cpl 4. (See diagram 1)</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<td>5-8 Cpl 1 with Cpl 2 and Cpl 3 with Cpl 4 dance R hands across, turning once CW. Cpls 1 and 3 finish in a straight line down the ctr of the set with M facing up and W facing down. Cpls 2 and 4 finish back in place.</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<td>II. REEL OF FOUR</td>
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<td>1-8 Cpls 1 and 3 dance a reel of four up and down the ctr of the set to finish back where they started.</td>
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III. RIGHT HAND TURN; SET AND CIRCLE FOUR

1-2 Cpl 1 and 3 turn ptr by R hand 3/4 CW to finish side by side, facing up, W on ML. M must change hands so that nearer hands are joined (ML, WR). Simultaneously on meas 1, Cpl 2 and 4 dance up on the sides of the set into 1st and 3rd place respectively. On meas 2 they dance into the ctr to join nearer hands with ptr facing down, W on ML.

3-4 Cpl 1 dance strathspey setting step to Cpl 2, and Cpl 3 set likewise to Cpl 4.

5-8 Cpl 1 and 2 join hands in a circle of 4 and dance CW once around. Cpl 3 and 4 dance likewise. All finish back on the sides in order from the top -- Cpl 2,1,4,3 with Cpl 1 and 3 on the wrong sides. (M on W side and W on M side).

IV. LEAD UP, CROSS AND CAST; 2 HAND TURN; DANCE DOWN OR CAST UP

1-4 Joining R hands, Cpl 1 lead up between Cpl 2. W Releasing hands, cross over to own side, W crossing in front of the M, and cast down to 2nd place. Top Cpl 3 dance likewise around Cpl 4. (See diagram 2)

5-6 Cpl 1 and 3 dance into the ctr to join both hands with ptr and turn once CW. Release MR, WL hands to finish facing down the set with W on ML.

7-8 Cpl 1 dance down to 4th place as Cpl 3 cast up to 2nd place.

Repeat dance from beginning with Cpl 2 and 4 active as Cpl 1 and 3. Dance is done 4 times total, each time with new Cpls 1 and 3.

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