

DE VLEGERD

(Holland)

De Vlegerd (deh VLAY-gert) comes from Gelderland and Overijssel provinces and was introduced by Mr. Huig Hofman at Folk Dance Camp, University of The Pacific, Stockton, California, in 1964. It is a peasant dance and used to be done on the threshing floor after the harvest was in. "Smiet oe Wief Weg" is the dialect version of the eastern provinces and is translated as "Fling (Throw) Your Wife Away".

MUSIC: Record: Folkraft 1487x45B; Folkraft LP-17B, Band 8.

FORMATION: Square of 8 cpls, 2 cpls on a side, W at ptrs R. Cpls with back to music and cpls facing music are head cpls; the others are side cpls. (If there are not sufficient number of dancers, this dance may be done with 6 cpls in a rectangle, or 4 cpls in a square.) Join hands in a circle to begin dance.

STEPS: Slide*, Two-step*

*Described in Volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 1095 Market Street, San Francisco, California

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

Measures

No Introduction (1 quick "pick-up" note before start.)

I. BOW AND CIRCLE

- A 1 Nod to ptr (ct 3).
2 Nod to corner (ct 3).
3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2.
5-8 (Music is faster) Beginning L, circle L (CW) with 8 slides, stopping quickly on last one.
9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8, but begin R and circle R on slides. Finish in square formation, cpls in closed pos.

II. COUPLES EXCHANGE PLACES

Note: Cpls remain in closed pos throughout Fig II.

- B 1 (Music tempo changes.) Head cpls move twd opp cpl with 4 slides. Begin ML-WR.
2 Head cpls move back to place with 4 slides. Begin MR-WL.
3-4 Head cpls exchange places with 8 slides, M passing back to back. Begin ML-WR. (Do not turn after crossing over.)
5-6 Head cpls repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig II), but begin MR-WL.

- 7-8 Head cpls repeat action of meas 3-4 (Fig II), but with W passing back to back.
Side cpls remain inactive during meas 1-8 (Fig II).
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig II), with side cpls active. Head cpls remain in place.

III. THROW YOUR WIFE AWAY

- B 1-2 Head cpls, in closed pos, repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-2.
- 3 Head cpls again move twd ctr with 4 slides, but on 4th slide, the W change places with opp W (and ptrs) by making 1/2 turn CW around each other. (M push with R hand as W throws R shoulder bwd to help make turn.)
- 4 In closed pos, with new ptr, head M return to place with 4 slides.
Begin MR-WL.
- 5-8 Head cpls repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig III) to finish with cpls in original places.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig III), with side cpls active.

IV. TWO-STEP PROMENADE

- A 1-8 In shoulder-waist pos, all cpls dance 16 very slow two-steps, turning CW and progressing CCW, once around the square. Finish in original places.

NOTE: In the old days there was always a dance master who called the steps, and it was a game - maybe 3-4 times of "flinging" your wife away. Also, the people not dancing would clap, to encourage and excite the active dancers so that by the time the last step came, the dancers were exhausted and could only do a tired two-step. Nowadays, Fig IV is often done in ballroom pos, with a little lift at the end of each two-step so that it takes on the quality of a schottische (but still keeping the ft very close to the floor.)