

VEDARAS

(Lithuania)

Vedaras (VEH-dah-rah's), meaning "The Pudding", was so named by the Lithuanians because of their fondness for blood sausage and blood pudding. This dance was originally introduced by Vyts Beliajus at the 1949 Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific at Stockton. Recently, using a newer recording, the dance was retaught by Vyts Beliajus at the 1971 Folk Dance Camp.

MUSIC: Record: Folkraft F LP 35 or Folkraft 78 1051 B (older recording)

FORMATION: Single circle of cpls, all facing ctr, hands joined low, arms extended downward to form a "v", W to M R. When free, M hands on hips, W hold skirts.

STEPS and STYLING: Polka Step (R): With wt on L, hop on L (upbeat of preceding meas). Dance 3 small running steps (R,L,R) (cts 1,&,2). Polka Step (L): Starts with hop on R and 3 small running steps L,R,L.

The Lithuanian polka is a series of independent running steps with full wt on each step.

Stamp: Throughout dance, the stamping ft does not take wt.

MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

3 Chords INTRODUCTION - No action.

I. CIRCLE R CCW, L CW

A 1-3 All beginning with hop on L, dance 3 polka steps to R (CCW).

4 Stamp L 2 times (no wt) at same time clap own hands 2 times.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4, reversing direction (CW) and ftwork.

CHORUS: ELBOW TURNS

B 1-4 Ptrs hook R elbows, dance 4 polka steps around; 8 skips may be substituted.

5-8 Repeat action of Chorus, meas 1-4, but hook L elbows.

II. CPLS POLKA, LOD, RLOD

A 1-3 Cpls face LOD, W to M R, inside arms crossed behind ptr with inside hands at ptrs outside waist, inside ft free. Beginning with hop on outside ft, ptrs dance 3 polka steps fwd LOD.

4 Stamp outside ft 2 times (no wt) at same time ptrs clap free hands (ML-WR) 2 times (cts 1-2).

5-8 Ptrs release hold, make 1/2 turn around inward (MR-WL) to face RLOD and assume original hold, reversing arms, W now to ML. Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II), beginning with hop on new outside ft and progressing RLOD.

CHORUS: ELBOW TURNS

III. SEPARATE, TRAVEL AND RETURN

A 1-8 Beginning with hop on L, M dance 3 polka steps fwd LOD. Stamp L twice, at same time clap own hands twice (meas 1-4). Turn 1/2 CCW to face RLOD and dance 3 polka steps fwd. Stamp R twice, at same time clap ptrs hands twice (meas 5-8). At same time W, beginning with hop on L, dance fwd to ctr 3 polka steps. Stamp L twice and clap hands twice with W on each side (meas 1-4). Turn CCW about to face out and dance 3 polka steps to original place. Stamp R twice and clap hands with ptr twice (meas 5-8).

VEDARAS (continued)

CHORUS: ELBOW TURNS

B 1-8 Repeat action of Chorus.

IV. POLKA GRAND R AND L

A 1-3 Ptrs start Grand R & L. Beginning with hop on L, dance 3 polka steps fwd beginning R hand with ptr, L to the next, R to the next, passing 3 dancers (ptr is No. 1). Keep hands about shoulder height.

4 Stamp L twice (no wt) at same time clap L hand twice with 4th person (cts 1-2).

5-7 Beginning with L hand with 4th person, dance 3 polka steps fwd, giving L hand, R hand, L hand, and passing on to the next 4th person.

8 Stamp R twice. At same time clap R hand twice with this 4th person, who now becomes new ptr.

CHORUS: ELBOW TURNS

B 1-8 Repeat action of Chorus with new ptr.

Repeat entire dance twice (3 times in all).