

# KARAGOUNA

(Greece)

Karagouna (Kah-rah-GOO-nah), originally introduced at the University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in 1960 by Richard Crum, was learned by Mr. Crum from Mr. Stavros Kalaras, Athenian folk dance teacher now living in Pittsburgh, Pa. During the last eight years there have been presentations of Greek dances by Oliver "Sonny" Newman and John Pappas.

Karagouna has many variations. Some of the more popular ones are included in the following description. In the following description the basic WALKING STEP (Fig I) with VARIATION I and VARIATION II (Fig II) were presented by Richard Crum. The remaining patterns were presented by John Pappas in 1968.

MUSIC: Record: Festival 45-3510; Olympic OL-24-13; Festival LP-3002;  
Folkraft LP-3, Side 2, Band 1, "Greek Folk Dances"

FORMATION: Open circle; throughout the dance hands remain joined about shoulder height; leader at the R end of line should be a M. Each Figure or Variation is danced until change is signaled by the leader.

STEPS AND STYLING: Walk\* (knees are flexible)  
Hop\* (more like a "lift" instead of a definite hop)  
Side Step: Facing ctr, step sdwd to R with R, with very slight turn of body to L (ct 1); close L a little fwd of R, turning body back to face ctr (ct 2).  
Full Knee Bend: From a standing pos assume a squatting pos (back straight - sit over toes, knees turned out) (ct 1); rise (spring) to upright pos, simultaneously hopping twice on L ft, swinging R across in front of L (cts 2, &).

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MUSIC 2/4

PATTERN

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Measures

8 meas      INTRODUCTION    No action

I. WALKING

1      Facing R, moving LOD, step R, L (cts 1, 2).  
2      Step R, turning to face ctr (ct 1); point L fwd (ct 2).  
3      Step L bkwd in place (ct 1); point R toe diag back of L heel (ct 2).  
4      Point R toe fwd in front of L toe (ct 1); point R toe diag back of L heel (ct 2).

VARIATION I (Fig I)

1      Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig I)  
2      Step R turning to face ctr (ct 1); step on L toe behind R heel (ct &); step on R toe behind L heel (ct 2).

NOTE: Meas 2 is similar to a slow reel step. When bringing one ft behind the other, the ft "hug" each other.

3-4      Repeat action of Fig I, meas 3-4.

KARAGOUNA (Continued)

VARIATION II (Fig I)

- 1 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig I).
- 2 Step on R (ct 1); hop twice on R (cts 2, &).
- 3 Continue in LOD, step on L (ct 1); hop twice on L, turning to face L (RLOD)(cts 2, &).
- 4 Step RLOD on R (ct 1); hop twice on R, turning to face R (LOD) cts 2, &).
- 5 Continue in LOD. Step on L (ct 1); step R (ct 2).
- 6 Step on L (ct 1); hop twice on L, turning to face L (RLOD) (cts 2, &).
- 7 Step RLOD on R (ct 1); hop twice on R, turning to face R (LOD) (cts 2, &).
- 8 Step on L (ct 1); pause with wt on L, placing R beside L with R touching floor (cts 2, &).

VARIATION III (Fig I) (M ONLY)

- 1 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig I)
- 2 Close R to L with wt on both ft and do a squat (knees together) turning to face ctr (ct 1); rise and stand facing ctr (ct 2).

VARIATION IV (Fig I) (W ONLY)

- 1 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig I) (cts 1, 2); close R to L and turn to face ctr, wt on both toes (ct &).
- 2 Bounce heels against floor 3 times (cts 1, &, 2); pause (ct &).

This Variation is danced while the M are doing the squat Variation (Variation III, Fig I).

II. SIDE STEP

- 1-4 Dance 4 Side Steps, moving sdwd LOD.

VARIATION I (Fig II)

- 5 Point R diag fwd to R, no wt (ct 1); with 2 small hops on L, swing R across in front of L (cts 2, &).
- 6 Step R across L (ct 1); point L diag fwd, no wt (ct 2).
- 7 Point L again diag fwd L (ct 1); with 2 small hops on R, swing L across in front of R (cts 2, &).
- 8 Step L across R (ct 1); point R diag fwd to R, no wt (ct 2).

VARIATION II (Fig II) (M ONLY)

- 1-4 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-4.
  - 5 Dance Full Knee Bend.
  - 6 Step R across L (ct 1); point L diag fwd L (ct 2).
  - 7 Repeat action of meas 5 (Variation II, Fig II), hopping twice on R.
  - 8 Step L across R (ct 1); point R diag fwd R, no wt (ct 2).
- During this variation for M only, W continue with Variation I (Fig II).

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