

OTB Schottis

(Sweden)

OTB Schottis was brought from Sweden in 1979 by Alix Cordray, who learned it from a Swedish Dance Group near Stromstad close to the Norwegian border. The title is somewhat whimsical and stands for "Over the Border". It was chosen by Alix because she was unable to learn the proper name for the dance which came from somewhere "over the border" from Norway. The boot slapping steps, while not at all unusual for men to use, are rarely seen as women's movements. Alix taught OTB at the Mandala in March, 1979 and at Stanford University in May, 1981.

RECORD: Any suitable slow Swedish Schottis. 4/4 meter

FORMATION: Cpls at random about the dance floor in closed pos*, both facing LOD.

STEPS and STYLING: Basic step (2 meas): (Described for M, W opp).
Take a long step fwd L (ct 1); step R beside L (ct 2); step L (ct 3); hold (ct 4). Step R (ct 1); hold (ct 2); step L (ct 3); step R (ct 4). Cue for timing is QQS;SQQ (cts 1,2,3;1,3,4).

The steps may be done fwd in LOD, or turning individually while progressing in LOD, and they are danced rather smoothly as done in Sweden, not springy as in Norway.

*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., 1275 "A" Street, Room 111, Hayward, California 94541.

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION May vary with the record or with the whim of the dancers.

I. WOMEN TURN

- 1 Beg ML, WR dance one Basic step fwd in LOD.
On ct 3, M beg to turn W once CW under joined ML, WR hands.
- 2 Beg MR, WL repeat meas 1, W complete the turn CW on ct 1; then during the last 2 cts take closed pos*.
- 3-4 Turn twice CW with 4 smooth pivot steps, (M LRLR, W RLRL) while progressing in LOD (cts 1,3;1,3).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

II. BOTH TURN AWAY

- 1 Release hands. Beg ML, WR, turn once individually away from ptr with 1 Basic step moving in LOD. M turn CCW, stepping LRL; W turn CW, RLR (cts 1,2,3). Pivoting 1/2 more on ML, WR, raise free ft under body, sharply slapping side of ft (or ankle) with palm (MR, WL) (ct 4).
- 2 Step, MR, WL continuing to turn another 1/2 (2 turns total) (ct 1); raise free ft, (ML, WR) under body and slap ft with palm (ML, WR) (ct 2); repeat Fig I, meas 2, cts 3-4, taking closed pos (cts 3-4).

Styling Note: When slapping ft during this Fig, raise ft up to hand; don't bend over to slap it.

- 3-4 Repeat Fig I, meas 3-4.
- 5-8 Repeat Fig II, meas 1-4.
Repeat dance from beg.

OTB Schottis - con't (page 2)

VARIATION:

- 1-2 In open pos*, beg ML, WR dance one Basic step fwd in LOD.
M step across in front of W on last 2 steps (ct 3,4) to take closed pos.
- 3-4 Repeat Fig I, meas 3-4.

Description written August 1984.