BAL A DEUX, A QUATRE (France - South Western Brittany)

In Celt, the word "bal" means walk or promenade. This promenade alternates with the figures executed by each couple (bal a deux) or by two couples (bal a quatre).

The order or sequence of figures may differ according to leader. The suggested pattern here is danced by "TRIS KEL" under the direction of Jean-Yve Cité.

Pronunciation:

Record: Uni-Disc 45-274.

"DANSES DE BASSE-BRETAGNE Side B/2 4/4 meter.

Formation: Circle of couples all facing CW (RLOD). M are outside,

inside hands in W pos. Outside hands hold skirt for

W, and rest on hip for M.

The couples are spaced about 4 feet apart and are

numbered 1 and 2.

Pas de quatre or shottis step. Used for all figures Steps:

except Promenade.

Meas Pattern

6 INTRODUCTION.

PART I. PROMENADE.

- 1-4 Starting on outside ft (M L, W R) all walk 16 steps moving CW.
 - PART II. BAL A DEUX. Fwd and back and turn.
- В In modified closed pos (inside hands are held in the back of W), one basic step fwd.
 - 2 One basic or pas de quatre bkwd.
 - 3 Change places, describing 1/2 turn CW.
 - Come back home, describing 1/2 turn CCW.
 - Repeat action of meas 1-2. 1-2

(repeat)

With two basic steps, a full turn CW. 3-4

PART III. PROMENADE.

A 1-4 Repeat action of Part I.

PART IV. BAL A DEUX. Fwd and turn.

- Repeat action of meas 1, Part II. Repeat action of meas 3, Part II. В 1

 - Facing CCW (LOD), repeat action of meas 1-2, Part II. 3-4
 - Repeat action of meas 1-4. 1-4

(repeat)

BAL A DEUX, A QUATRE (continued)

PART V. PROMENADE.

Repeat action of Part I. On the last meas, cpl #1 turn 1-4 as a cpl to face #2.

- PART VI. BAL A QUATRE. R and L through. Facing opp cpl, join R hands with opp person.
 - Join L hands with ptr pivoting 1/2 CCW. 2
 - Repeat action of meas 1-2. 3-4
- 1-4 Repeat action of meas 1-4. At the end of sequence, (repeat) cpl #1 describe an extra 1/2 turn to face RLOD.

PART VII. PROMENADE.

Repeat action of Part V, but cpl #1 turns. A 1-4

PART VIII. BAL A QUATRE. Ladies' Chain.

- 1 4W change places in a regular Ladies' Chain with M giving the courtesy turn.
 - 1-4 Repeat action of meas 1-4. (repeat)

Presented by Louise and Germain Hébert