

## **Appalachian Big Circle and Clog Dance**

From the southeastern United States

### **Old Joe Clark and Cluck Ol' Hen**

Choreography by Jerry Duke from traditional figures

**Formation:** Cpls in a large circle, Follower (Fo) to the right of Leader (Le), hands held in W position

**Meter:** 2/4

Meas **Introduction**

1-2 No action, start on either foot

Meas **Large Circle**

1-8 Circle CW with 16 walking steps

9-16 Walk 8 steps to ctr and 8 steps out bkwd

17-32 Repeat 1-16 in CCW direction

Meas **Couples in Big Circle**

1-8 Swing partner, walk around each other CW in ballroom position with right sides together

9-16 Promenade 16 steps CCW in Varsovienne pos

17-24 **Wring Out the Dishrag** two times (see below)

25-40 Repeat 9-24

Meas **Solos**

1-16 Fo walk to ctr and do **West Virginia Flat Foot**, Le walk 16 steps CCW then walk 16 steps CW

17-32 Le walk to ctr and do **Buck Dance**, Fo walk out, walk 16 steps CCW then walk 16 steps CW

Meas **Small Circles**

1-8 Cpls promenade to make circle with another cpl, circle to left (CW) in that small circle

9-16 Right hand star, circling CW

17-24 Left hand star, circling CCW

25-28 Leaders swing the other cpl's Follower

29-32 Original couples swing

Repeat Small Circles with other couples

Meas **Return to Big Circle**

1-8 Promenade to form Big Circle

Repeat **Solos**

Find and swing original partner

Repeat **Large Circle**

Swing partner until music ends

## **Clogging Step**

Clogging is optional and should not interfere with the figures. Combine variations in any way desired.

### **Meas Basic**

- 1 Bend knees, brush R toe fwd (&), brush toe back (ah), step R (1), repeat cts &,ah,1 with L foot (&,ah,2)
  - 2 Repeat meas 1 cts &,ah,1 (&,ah,1), step on ball of L foot (&), step on R ft (2)
  - 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp footwork
- Variation: Do only meas 2 repeatedly with opp feet

### **Meas Chug Variation**

- 1 Do Basic clogging meas 1 cts (&,ah,1,&,ah), chug fwd on R ft while lifting L knee (2)
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp footwork

### **Meas Cross Variation**

- 1 Do Basic clogging meas 1 cts (&,ah), chug fwd on L ft while crossing R ft in front of L (1), repeat cts (&,ah), chug fwd on L ft while throwing R heel to right (2)
- 2 Repeat meas 1 (as many times as desired)
- 3 Do Basic clogging meas 2
- 4-6 Repeat meas 1-3 with opposite footwork

## **Solo Steps**

### **Meas West Virginia Flat Foot**

- 1 With wt on R, bend knees and throw left heel to left twice while bending and raising elbows
- 2 Repeat with L foot

### **Meas Buck Dance**

- 1 Bend knees stomping on R ft bending elbows behind (1), slide R ft back while straightening knees and arms (&), repeat with L ft (2&)
- 2 Repeat

## **Wring Out the Dishrag**

Usually done twice

Count Start in Varsovienn position

- 1-2 Le lifts R arm as Fo begins to travel CCW around partner
- 3-4 As Fo gets to Le's L side and starts behind, Le begins to lower R arm and lift L arm
- 5-8 When Fo reaches Le's R side, Le turns Fo CCW in place returning to original position

## **Appalachian Big Circle Dance**

Dance begins with walking in the Big Circle along with Big Circle figures extending as long as the caller wishes to allow people to join in; followed by several Small Circle figures; and ends with Big Circle figures. Figures are called and may be in any order.

### **Big Circle Figure: London Bridge**

Head cpl forms an arch by turning back and joining inside hands for couples to pass under. The next cpl ducks under arch, turns and forms arch behind the head cpl. As the head cpl pass over the last cpl, they duck under to follow through and promenade out of tunnel to continue the promenade CCW.

### **Small Circle Figures**

#### **Circle Up Four**

Make circles of two cpls each around the floor; cpls with back to centre become traveling (trvl) cpl, the other cpl is the home cpl. Circle L (CW) (8 cts), then, trvl cpls move to the next home cpl CCW in the big circle (8 cts). Cpls who find themselves alone should go to ctr and find another cpl. If there are none they become a trvl cpl, thus missing the first figure.

#### **Duck and Dive**

Trvl cpl ducks under arch formed by home cpl (4 cts) and back (4 cts). Home cpls do likewise (8 cts). Trvl cpl ducks thru arch again, breaking own hand hold, but holding onto home cpl and pulling them under their own arch and go around to place (8 cts), circle CW (8 cts) and CCW (8 cts).

#### **Four Leaf Clover**

Do first 16 cts of Duck and Dive. Trvl cpl ducks thru arch again, keeping hand hold, and turning away from each other under their own held hands to form the clover, circle 8 CW and 8 CCW, pull home cpl under trvl cpl arch and under their own arch, circle CW 8 and CCW 8.

#### **Birdie in the Cage**

The Fo of the Trvl cpl gets in the ctr while the others circle CW, 8 cts, CCW, 8 cts.

#### **Birdie Hop out! Crow Hop in!**

Le of Trvl cpl gets in ctr when his partner comes out, CW, 8 cts, CCW, 8 cts.

#### **Big Circle Left**

Circle L (CW) half way around (4 cts), trvl cpl breaks from home cpl and forms big circle (4 cts)