

PONGAUER WALZER

Austrian

- PRONUNCIATION: PON-gow-er VAL-tser
- TRANSLATION: Waltz from the Pongau Valley
- SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from Gretel Dunsing. Jane Farwell introduced the dance to folk dancers in the United States. Morry Gelman taught the dance at the 1979 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp (now the Stockton Folk Dance Camp) and Ned and Marian Gault taught it at the 1979 Camp Hess Kramer Camp.
- BACKGROUND: Pongauer Walzer is from the Pongau Valley around the town of St. Johann im Pongau in the Austrian Tirol area between Innsbruck and Salzburg. Jane Farwell learned the dance in the winter of 1957-58 in the Harz mountain area of Germany around the town of Braunlage from an Austrian dance leader and researcher. St. Johann im Pongau is located in the Salzach Valley of the Eastern Alps, between the Salzburg Slate Alps in the north, the Radstadt Tauern (part of the Niedere Tauern range) in the southeast, and the Ankogel Group (Hohe Tauern) in the southwest. Due to its picturesque setting, the area largely depends on tourism – Alpine skiing in the winter and hiking in the summer. A dramatic gorge called Liechtensteinklamm lies south of the city.
- MUSIC: Tanz (45rpm) SP 23068;
Tanz (EP) EP 58615
- FORMATION: Cpls in Open pos, M R hand joined with W L, free hand on hip, facing CCW around floor in LOD, in one or more cir.
- METER/RHYTHM: 3/4
- STEPS/STYLE: WALTZ: Step L (ct 1); step R (ct 2); close L to R, taking wt (ct 3). Step description is for M; W use opp ftwk. When turning with ptr in Closed social dance pos, make 1/2 CW turn per each meas.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

None.

THE DANCE

- 1 Dance 1 Waltz step diag fwd away from ptr (M twd inside of cir, W twd outside);
- 2 Dance 1 Waltz step diag fwd twd ptr;
- 3-4 Turning (twd ptr) to face RLOD, dance 2 more Waltz steps bwd continuing in LOD;
- 5-16 Turning to face ptr and taking Closed social dance pos, dance 12 Waltz steps, turning CW with ptr and progressing in LOD.
- 17-24 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (only turning 4 Waltz steps).
- 25-28 Joining R hands and raising them in an arch, L hands on hips, M dance 4 Waltz steps in LOD as W dances 4 Waltz steps making 2 CW turns under the arch;
- 29-32 Taking Closed social dance pos, dance 4 Waltz steps, turning CW with ptr and progressing in LOD.
- Repeat entire dance from beg.