**ARKANSAS TRAVELER**

**a 48-bar contra**

A trad New Hampshire version, done by Dudley Laufman at the 1992 Ralph Page Legacy Weekend, at U. NH campus. Dudley has it from one source (though not a common one) of Ralph's dances. Dudley remembers that Ralph modified the B1 B2 slightly (to what you see here) from what was written down in the book.

Dudley uses the 48 bar tune "Waterloo Dance", from the Thomas Hardy collection and tune books. The tune fits the dance like a glove, and avoids all the screwing around with playing 32 bar tunes ABABAB or AABBAB. Imo, this dance is what you should encourage the caller to do, if you want to play Waterloo Dance.

Duple minor. Proper.

**A1** All forward and back;

Forward again, crossing over (passing rt sh) and turn back into line. \*

**A1** All forward and back;

Forward again, crossing back again (passing rt sh) and turn back into line.

**B1** Star rt with couple below: all swing partner.\*\*

**B2** Star back (left) with same couple: all swing partner again.\*\*

**C1** Actives down center (w on rt) turn as couple (to proper sides);

Back up, cast off (m with m, w with w).

**C2** Rt and left through over and back.

\* Best to surge across as far as the room allows, then sweeping turn, and come back up into line; this is the part that's English or Morris-like. In a room half full of morris dancers, it would be inspiring to watch or do.

\*\* Dudley says the original written source has B1 Star and Back, and B2 a longer swing, but that he remembers Ralph modifying it to be as indicated above. Imho (having danced it as above) the longer swing could be more romantic, but the short moves give a really sweet old-fashioned Yankee "teamwork" dance.

Since I'm not a caller, I have not literally dance-tested this for transcription glitches by calling it, or with salt and pepper shakers, after I got it on the phone from Dudley. You might do that if you are a caller.

Phil Katz

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