



DRAG HESITATION **BY: RICHARD & JO ANNE LAWSON** **CHAIRCOUPLE, DRDC EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

ROUNDALAB DEFINITION: **DRAG HESITATION (PHASE IV)**

MAN: Step forward left beginning left face turn, side right continuing left face turn, draw left to right ending in contra-banjo.

WOMAN: Step back right beginning left face turn, side let continuing left face turn, draw right to left ending in contra-banjo.

NOTE: May be executed from different positions. Overall turn is approximately 3/8 to face reverse line of dance and center.

Following this definition of footwork, we would like to elaborate on dancing the figure to make it feel as if you are floating from one figure to another. We think of the Drag Hesitation as a means of changing positions in preparation for the next figure. In this case, we will follow the Drag Hesitation with a Back,Bk/Lk,Bk in waltz rhythm. Our choreography for this dance will be Maneuver; Spin Turn; Back Box; Drag Hesitation; Back,Bk/Lk,Bk;

We have just finished the Spin Turn and Back Box to face diagonal line and center in closed position. Now we begin the Drag Hesitation. 1. Man step forward with heel lead beginning to turn left face. 2. Step side down line of dance with larger than normal step. (As we draw on the third count, we must have someplace to draw to. We want to draw to the larger side step.) The side step will be on the inside of the foot, down as opposed to up on the toe or ball of the foot, but rising to the ball of the foot at the end of count two. 3. Continue to rise on the right foot while drawing left to right. The left foot should never stop completely. It should reach the right just in time for the next figure, in this case the Back,Bk/Lk,Bk.

At this point, we as a couple are in closed position facing the center of the hall. With a slight stretching of the man's right side we find ourselves in Contra Banjo Position man facing diagonal reverse and center. This stretching allows the lady to step forward on her right outside the man in banjo position. She is stepping forward across her body rather than straight forward. The man also steps across his body with his left on the back step. This will make the couple travel diagonally toward line and wall as they do the Back,Bk/Lk,Bk. The man will maintain a slight stretch of his right side as the couple completed the Back,Bk/Lk,Bk. This could cause the lady to open her head. Many couples execute the figure in this manner.

As we do our Back,Bk/Lk,Bk we remain in contra-banjo position rather than letting our bodies slip to a full "side-by-side" banjo position. Also, we like to think Down,Up/,&,Up on the back,back-locks.

POINTS TO REMEMBER: 1. Turn left and take a large side step. 2. Draw the left to right with a rising motion. Do not let the left foot completely stop before taking the next step. 3. At the end of the figure the bodies are in closed position with the man facing the center of the hall. This puts the couple in contra-banjo position with the man facing reverse-and-center. 4. The Back,Bk/Lk,Bk should be taken across the body with a slight right side stretch, or the man. 5. Dance the Drag Hesitation and the Back,Bk/Lk,Bk as if you are riding the waves on the ocean. Dance Down, Up, Up; Down, Up/ & Up; and then down into the next figure. (Opposite footwork for the lady.)

