

Tune of the Month

This tune was borrowed from the WOTFA Newsletter. Stuart Williams writes -- Kneecracker is a tune with character. It's not one of those dreamy, pretty little things, but a waltz meant for a quick spinning step. In fact, that's how Sadie Gates remembers it from back in North Dakota. The dancers spun so close together that it seemed as though their knees were a-knockin' together. Sadie (b-1910) grew up in North Dakota, a third generation Norwegian/American Fiddler. As a young girl she started seconding her grandfather at the 20 local dances on fiddle, pump organ and guitar and eventually took over the lead fiddle work. Quite the performer at WOTFA fiddle shows, dressed up in her classy cowgirl outfits; she put a lot of bounce and oomph into the bow, making for very danceable beat.

Kneecracker

waltz

from Sadie Gates
late of Auburn, WA

The musical score for 'Kneecracker' is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4. The second staff contains a first ending (marked '1.') and a second ending (marked '2.'). The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff has a first ending (marked '1.') and a second ending (marked '2.'). The fifth staff continues the melody. The sixth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line. Chord markings 'G' and 'D' are placed above the notes throughout the score.