31 Waltzes

by

John Goodin

2009

Preface

I had written a few waltzes before Pat O'Loughlin, Patrice Pakiz, Erik Sessions and I formed Contratopia. When I discovered how beautifully the band would play my tunes I began to write more. Six of my waltzes appear in the *Contratopia Tunebook*, along with two written by Erik, and all of these have been recorded on our three CDs. This collection contains three more of my waltzes that appear on our *Ballroom Echoes* CD, one that appears on our *Smitten* CD, and 27 more that have yet to be recorded. Most have been played at least once by Contratopia and several of them are played regularly. In addition, I was very pleased when the Montana Mandolin Society chose to arrange and record the "January Waltz" on their excellent CD *Mosaic*.

I would like to think that there is a good variety represented here from straightforward folk waltzes to tunes with more complex melodies and chord changes. Hopefully you will find a few that suit your own taste and are fun to play. Along with the five waltzes that you can find on the CDs mentioned above, another 14 of these tunes can be heard in simple arrangements as mp3s on my *So Many Tunes* blogsite (http://somanytunes.blogspot.com) and its accompanying alphabetical listing (http://www.contratopia.com/SMT.htm). Some of the remaining waltzes may appear on that blog in the future, along with some of the many not included in this collection or yet to be written.

I especially want to thank Pat, Patrice, and Erik for encouraging the creation of these tunes by their beautiful playing and their willingness to try things out. A few of these tunes have also received lovely performances by my friends in Decorah's own Western Home String Band and by my partners in the Bear Creek Bluegrass band: Jim Skurdall, Jody Koenig, and Erik Sessions. I would also like to thank Erik and Larry Unger for writing such fine tunes of their own, and Bill Matthiesen for his inspirational series of *Waltz Books*. Most of all I'd like to thank the hundreds of dancers who I've had the amazing pleasure of watching dance to these tunes over the last few years.

January, 2009

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Alice's Garden

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Bear Creek Waltz

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The Beautiful Days

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Bighorn River Sunset

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Bob's Angels

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The Company You Keep

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Count On Me

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Easter Waltz

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Evenings and Weekends

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Everybody Wins, Everybody Loses

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Form: AABBAABBCC

Family Valentine

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Favors Her Father

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The First Saturday in June

John Goodin



First Snow

John Goodin













French Creek Waltz

John Goodin









G for Gordy

John Goodin















Goslings Afloat

John Goodin









January Waltz

John Goodin











Kitchen Waltz

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Last Call at Hawley-Cooke

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Moonrise Over Spencer Pond

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New Blanket

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Old Clarksville

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Old Haugen Hall

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Our Own Way

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Rachel's Waltz

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Small Town Downtown

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Snow Drifter

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Spring Forward

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The Waltz Lesson

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