Kerry Sets
A 6 1/2 x 32 bar reel for 4 couples in a square.
Fast polka sets from Ireland.

This can be considered a choreographed Polka Set (Berkeley Set), and is described thus below.

(16) **Body:** Polka. As in Polka Set.

(16) **1st Figure:** Toss Across.

(4) Head couples Toss Across:

(2) Head couples dance a turning polka in toward center.

(2) Man flings lady into the arms of the opposite man. Then men dance a turning polka home with a new partner (opposite lady).

(4) Side couples Toss Across.

(8) Repeat.

(16) **Body:** Polka.

(16) **2nd Figure:** Grand Star.

(3) Men Star Left, promenading with partners in their Right arms.

(1) Men back out and ladies wheel in.

(3) Ladies Star Right home, still in the arm of their promenading partners.

(1) Ladies wheel out.

(8) All couples dance a turning polka around the set.

(16) **Body:** Polka.
(16) 3rd Figure: Grand Ladies’ Chain, Grand Around The House.
NOTE: the Chain differs from the standard Ladies’ Chain on the final 4 bars. Ladies Star Right in the middle halfway toward home place, instead of dancing without taking hands. Then, ladies give Left hand to partner, who holds the joined Left hands high, letting the lady pass behind his back to home place. At the last moment, man turns to face partner, and they lower Left hands to take Right-in-Right hands, crossed over Left-in-Left hands.
Around The House as normal.

(96) Repeat.

(16) Body: Polka.

The polka step is a fairly smooth leaping two-step, without a preliminary hop, but there are many regional style variations, and a traveling pas de basque in polka time is also seen on occasion.

Caller’s Notes for Kerry Sets:

(16) Body: Polka.

(16) 1st Figure: Toss Across.

(16) Body: Polka.

(16) 2nd Figure: Grand Star.

(16) Body: Polka.

(16) 3rd Figure: Grand Ladies’ Chain, Grand Around The House.

(96) Repeat.

(16) Body: Polka.

Reconstruction and choreography by Richard Powers, based on what he observed and danced in Ireland, supplemented with polka set descriptions by Larry Lynch, Tracey Powers, Pat Murphy and others.