

The Boys of Urbana

by John Coffman

Dance formation: Becket

- A1 Circle left three-quarters (8)
Zig left (2), zag right (2) to meet new neighbors;
men allemande left halfway to face this new neighbor (4)
- A2 Neighbors balance and swing (16)
- B1 Long lines forward and back (8)
Ladies allemande right once and a half (8)
- B2 Partners balance and swing (16)

© John Coffman

Author's notes: To "zig left," gent leads partner left out of set; the momentum from the circle left keeps flowing into the zig left. To "zag right," lady leads partner back into set past current neighbors to face new neighbors, and then a little more so the two gents are almost left shoulder to left shoulder.

The dance was written for Euphor, a great band (mostly) from Urbana, Illinois. My wife, Kathy, and I live in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, a smallish college town of about 35,000, about a hundred and fifteen miles south of St. Louis. I have been dancing since 1998 and calling since 2005. Kathy and I are the primary organizers for our local twice-monthly dance.

~ J.C.

Editor's note: This is a wonderful dance for early in the evening, or for a mixed experience-level crowd since it is relatively simple but has an interesting twist.

~ L.A.

See "The Boys of Urbana" danced at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCpmxejD3Wg> (Preview)



Welcome, Lynn!

We welcome Lynn Ackerson to the *CDSS News* as a dance editor. Lynn began contra dancing in 1998 when a friend suggested she stop spending so much time at work; six months later she was at her first dance camp and two years after that she called her first evening of contras. She now calls contras and squares on both coasts at weekends, festivals and camps; programs dance series and weekends; and treks east often enough to be a regular at the Ralph Page Dance Legacy Weekend and New England Folk Festival. Lynn has been on the boards of Bay Area CDS and CDSS, and she is an originator of the recent Contra Dance Callers Survey done by CDSS.

~ C.B.