

OACA Note Service

Eight Chain Thru Presented by John Charman

EIGHT CHAIN THRU (1 – 8 hands)

Starting Formation: Eight Chain Thru

Facing dancers join RIGHT HANDS AND PULL BY (This completes an Eight Chain One).

The centre facing dancers join LEFT HANDS AND PULL by
while the outside dancers do a COURTESY TURN (this completes an Eight Chain Two).

Repeat these actions in sequence to achieve Eight chain three, Eight Chain Four, etc. Eight Chain Thru is the same as Eight Chain Eight. Even numbers(2,4,6,8) end in an Eight Chain Thru formation. Odd numbers (1,3,5,7) end in a Trade By formation.

Styling:

Use same styling as in courtesy Turn and Right and Left Grand. Emphasis should be placed on the Courtesy Turn in that portion of the basic so that dancers can maintain an Eight Chain Thru formation and not be allowed to drift into a Right and Left Grand type of movement.

Timing:

Box, 8 hands 20 steps; 4 hands 10 steps.

HEADS SQUARE THRU 4
EIGHT CHAIN 4
RIGHT AND LEFT THRU
EIGHT CHAIN 4
PASS TO THE CENTER
CENTERS SQUARE THRU 3
ALLEMANDE LEFT

HEADS STAR THRU
PASS THRU
EIGHT CHAIN 2
PASS TO THE CENTER
CENTERS SQUARE THRU 3
ALLEMANDE LEFT

HEADS LEAD RIGHT
EIGHT CHAIN 6
SWING THRU
RIGHT AND LEFT GRAND

HEADS SQUARE THRU 4
EIGHT CHAIN 3
TRADE BY
ALLEMANDE LEFT

HEADS PASS THE OCEAN
EXTEND
RECYCLE
EIGHT CHAIN 5
ENDS CLOVERLEAF
CENTERS PASS THE OCEAN
EXTEND
RECYCLE
ALLEMANDE LEFT

4 LADIES CHAIN
4 LADIES CHAIN 3-4
HEADS SQUARE THRU 4
EIGHT CHAIN 1
ALLEMANDE LEFT

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HEADS SQUARE THRU 2
EIGHT CHAIN 7
CENTERS STAR THRU
CENTERS PASS THRU
ALL PARTNER TRADE

HEADS SQUARE THRU 4
EIGHT CHAIN THRU
SWING THRU
CENTERS TRADE
ENDS CIRCULATE
RIGHT AND LEFT GRAND

SIGHT CALLING GET-OUT

Any time you have a line with everyone in sequence, check which number lady Number One man has and then

RIGHT AND LEFT THRU
SLIDE THRU
EIGHT CHAIN (What ever number)
We are now facing the corner. If you have used an odd number of hands then you can call Allemande Left. Else, if the number was even you have to use a different Get-Out.

Example

4 LADIES CHAIN
HEADS LEAD RIGHT
CIRCLE TO A LINE
(Number One has number three lady)
RIGHT AND LEFT THRU
SLIDE THRU
EIGHT CHAIN 3
ALLEMANDE LEFT

Now for something harder.

Any even number plus a half gives Right Hand Waves

HEADS SQUARE THRU 4
EIGHT CHAIN 2 ½ (RHW)
SWING THRU , BOYS RUN
FERRIS WHEEL , ZOOM
SQUARE THRU 3
ALLEMANDE LEFT

HEADS PASS THE OCEAN
EXTEND
RECYCLE
EIGHT CHAIN 2 ½ (RHW)
SWING THRU
SPIN THE TOP
RECYCLE
SQUARE THRU 4
TRADE BY
ALLEMANDE LEFT

Any Odd number plus a half gives Left hand Wave and two couples at 90 degrees to them.

HEAD LADIES CHAIN
HEADS SQUARE THRU 4
EIGHT CHAIN 3 ½
VERY CENTRE BOYS TRADE AND RUN
ALL BEND THE LINE
HEADS SLIDE THRU
ALLEMANDE LEFT

HEADS SQUARE THRU 2
EIGHT CHAIN 3 ½
LADIES DIAMOND CIRCULATE
IN WAVE TRADE THE WAVE
AND RECYCLE
OTHERS BEND THE LINE
DOUBLE PASS THRU
TRACK II , RECYCLE
PASS TO CENTRE
CENTRES STAR THRU
BACKAWAY ,HOME

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Thars presented By Any Himberg-Larsen in November.

DEFINITIONS:

1. THAR FAMILY:

(a) ALLEMANDE THAR: An allemande thar star is a formation and may be formed at the end of any left arm turn by the centre dancers (or those directed) forming a right hand box star and backing up. Each outside dancer holds the left forearm of a centre dancer and walks forward.

(b) WRONG WAY THAR: A wrong way thar may be formed at the end of any right arm turn by the Centre dancers (or those directed) forming a left hand box star and backing up. Outside dancers hold the right forearm of a centre dancer and walk forward.

STYLING:

When the men are in the centre backing up, their right hands will form a packsaddle/box star, taking the wrist of the man in front of him. When the ladies star, they will simply touch hands in the centre. The dancers forming the star must remember to allow those on the outside to set the pace, since they have to travel a much further distance. If the centres move too fast, the result is that those on the outside will have to run to maintain the pace. As in any star, the ladies, while on the outside, may elect to hold their skirts.

TIMING: SS, from Allemande Left to point of backup star, 12 steps.

TEACHING

When teaching THAR STARS I like to start from a static square and have the dancers face their partner. I have them take left forearm hold and then turn half by the left and tell them not to let go but hold on to the girl. I'll then have the boys put their right hands into the centre and take hold of the mans wrist in front of them. At this point, I'll instruct the men to make sure they do not stretch their right arms out straight but have a slight bend in them and to make sure they tuck their left elbow into their side, so that the star is nice and small, so the girls do not have to run to keep up.

My get out here is simply – DROP HANDS, STEP FORWARD, ALLEMANDE LEFT.

From here I'll do a quick walk through using ALLEMANDE left to an ALLEMANDE THAR and getting into a THAR from a Do Paso. Get outs are as above or using an arm turn. After using the left arm turn to get out of the Thar Star I'll tell my dancers that this can be called as Shoot the Star and start using it.

Some combinations to use during your teach:

ALLEMANDE LEFT GO ALLEMANDE THAR
TURN THE GIRL BY THE LEFT
GO FORWARD TWO TO ANOTHER THAR
TURN HER BY THE LEFT
PROMENADE THE NEXT OR RIGHT AND LEFT
GRAND

ALLEMANDE LEFT GO RIGHT AND LEFT GRAND
MEET THE PARTNER, TURN HER BY THE
RIGHT A FULL TURN
TURN THE CORNER BY THE LEFT A FULL TURN
HANG ON MAKE
AN ALLEMANDE THAR
DROP HANDS DO AN ALLEMANDE LEFT
GO FORWARD TWO TO AN ALLEMANDE THAR,
DROP HANDS
ALLEMANDE LEFT
PROMENADE

DO PASO PARTNER LEFT, CORNER BY THE
RIGHT,
PARTNER LEFT ALLEMANDE THAR
DROP HANDS DO AN ALLEMANDE LEFT

FOUR LADIES STAR RIGHT
TURN THE PARTNER LEFT TO AN ALLEMANDE
THAR,
TURN HER BY THE LEFT (SHOOT THE STAR),
FOUR LADIES STAR STRAIGHT ACROSS TO
THE OPPOSITE,
TURN HIM BY THE LEFT TO AN ALLEMANDE
THAR,
TURN HER BY THE LEFT (SHOOT THE STAR),
FOUR LADIES CHAIN,
PROMENADE.

After dancing the some of the above I'll tell the dancers that it is not necessarily always the boys that go to the middle and that the girls can also go to the middle and I may do something like this:

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ALLEMANDE LEFT
BOX THE GNAT
PULL BY, TURN CORNER BY THE LEFT
GIRLS TO THE MIDDLE FOR AN ALLEMANDE
THAR,
TURN BY THE LEFT
GO FORWARD TWO TO ANOTHER THAR GIRLS
ARE IN THE MIDDLE,
TURN HER BY THE LEFT
GIVE A RIGHT PULL BY
ALLEMANDE LEFT PROMENADE OR RIGHT
AND LEFT GRAND

FROM A THAR STAR
SHOOT THE STAR, A FULL TURN,
BOYS STAR STRAIGHT ACROSS TO THE
OPPOSITE,
TURN HER BY THE LEFT GIRLS IN TO AN
ALLEMANDE THAR

DO PASO,
GO TO THE CORNER TURN HER BY THE
RIGHT,
GIRLS TO THE MIDDLE FOR A WRONG WAY
THAR

When the dancers appear comfortable with the
above I'll tell them that anywhere I can do an arm
turn I can call A Thar Star:

HEADS MAKE A RIGHT HAND STAR,
GO ONCE AROUND, FIND THE CORNER,
TURN BY THE LEFT MAKE AN ALLEMANDE
THAR (BOY/GIRL IN THE MIDDLE)

HAVE FUN AND USE YOUR IMAGINATION:

FOUR LADIES CHAIN,
CHAIN THEM HOME DIXIE STYLE TO AN
ALLEMANDE THAR

HEAD LADIES LEAD GO DIXIE STYLE TO AN
OCEAN WAVE,
HEAD GENTS MAKE AN ARCH
SIDE LADIES THROUGH THE ARCH LEAD DIXIE
STYLE TO AN OCEAN WAVE,
NOW THE BOYS BACK UP AND THE GIRLS
PUSH YOU HAVE A THAR STAR

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ZOOM Presented By Brian Crawford

Definition: Starting formation - starting and completed double pass thru, two faced lines, single file promenade, columns, box circulate and promenade. From one couple following another, each dancer in the lead couple separates away from his/her partner and walks around full circle (360°) to end in the position of the dancer who was directly behind him/her. Meanwhile, each trailing dancer steps directly forward into the vacated position of the lead dancer. Every dancer ends facing in the same direction he/she started. From a setup where one dancer is following another, the lead dancer walks away from the center of the square and around in a full circle (360°) to the position of the dancer who was directly behind him. Meanwhile, the trailing dancer steps directly forward into the position vacated by the lead dancer.

Teaching Hints

Tell lead dancers to look back at the trailers to see where they will be after they complete the call. You will be standing behind the dancers behind you .

Mention to all of the dancers on the floor (especially experienced dancers) that ZOOM from a completed Double Pass Thru that this is not a CLOVER LEAF action.

Always away from the center of the square.

Trailers if in a couple hold hands as they move forward.

(1)

Start standard position DPT
Use : HEADS PASS THRU
SEPARATE AROUND ONE
COME INTO THE MIDDLE

(2)

Then from completed DPT

(3)

After standard position set up 1 / 2 sashayed

have centers

SQUARE THRU

DOSADO

STAR THRU

TOUCH A 1 / 4

GIRL RUN

Or From DPT

Everybody U TURN BACK

Normalize

(4)

Call from same Sex setup

H/S PASS THRU

SEPARATE AROUND ONE

MAKE A LINE

PASS THRU

WHEEL AND DEAL

Then DPT and U TURN to give everyone a chance on either side .

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Using the definition

From any position where one dancer is following another the lead dancer walks away from the center and around in a full circle to the position of the dancer who was directly behind him. Meanwhile the trailing dancer steps directly forward into the position vacated by the lead dancer.

(Lead dancer will walk away or roll out in an exaggerated circle to become the end of the wave or two faced lines behind him or her, still facing the same direction. Trailing dancers move forward as in ends circulate to take the place of the vacated dancer.

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(5)

From Ocean Waves

To work both ends in wave use

Z BOX
ZOOM
ZOOM
SWING THRU
ZOOM
ZOOM
BOY RUN
WHEEL AND DEAL
ALLEMANDE LEFT
Square up at HOME

(6)

Up until now ZOOM did not change the arrangement that we were using (i.e: from a column standard position the dancers stayed in the same arrangement as before the call was executed) But ZOOM can effect arrangement.

HEADS PASS THE OCEAN
(starts BGGB wave)
EXTEND
HINGE
ZOOM
(ends in a BB GG WAVE)
SWING THRU
ZOOM
CENTERS RUN
1 / 2 TAG
CENTERS TRADE
CENTERS RUN
FERRIS WHEEL
DPT
ZOOM
LEADS PARTNER TRADE
ALLEMANDE HOME

(7)

Two faced lines or
Lines facing out
TAG THE LINE RIGHT
and CROSS RUN

can be used from two faced lines to show full usage of call to both R & L hand dancer.

(8)

Columns

*Note: It is not the very ends that are active (not a grand call) it is each box or center box as directed that are involved with the call. ..

*Hint:

Explain leads may get caught in traffic if they over exaggerate the call and could interfere with other dancers especially if only centers of the column are active.

USE CIRCULATES TO SHOW POSITIONS...
From columns USE.. ALL EIGHT, SPLIT & CENTER BOX

ONE WAY TO SET UP COLUMN other than H/S star Thru from SS

H/S PASS THE OCEAN
SWING THRU
EXTEND
CENTERS TRADE
SWING THRU
CENTERS RUN
BTL
TOUCH 1 / 4

To have dancers experience the call from R or L side have
BOY RUN
GIRL U TURN
Reverse for opposite result

(9)

Working the centers of the column

Z BOX
SLIDE THRU
TOUCH A 1 / 4
CENTER BOX ZOOM
CENTER BOX ZOOM
WORKING WITH THE WHOLE COLUMN (each 1 / 2)
ZOOM
BOY RUN
Z BOX

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ZOOM as part of other calls
Chase Right
Cast A Shadow

Can be used with the long points of a Diamond (not point to point)

Note: *It was mentioned at the callers meeting that some have called or experienced ZOOM from a column with centers also active in the call. I do not feel this is within the definition or comfortable but have not called or experienced it as a dancer. Please use discretion when calling zoom from a two faced line that the dancers understand the Choreography that you are presenting.*

Brian..

ZOOM SINGERS

Wave

H/S LEAD TO THE RIGHT....MAKE A
WAVE...ZOOM....SWING
THRU....ZOOM...SINGLE
HINGE...ZOOM...CENTER BOX
CIRCULATE...EVERBOBY WALK AND
DODGE...ENDS FOLD...CORNER...

Column

HEADS TURN THRU...SEPARATE AROUND
ONE...MAKE A LINE...TOUCH A 1 / 4 ... EACH
HALF
ZOOM...CENTER FOUR ZOOM...BOY
RUN...CENTERS PASS THRU...CORNER..

DPT

H/S SLIDE THRU...DPT...ZOOM...PUT CENTERS
IN ...CAST OFF 3 / 4...STAR
THRU...DPT....ZOOM..LEAD PARTNER
TRADE...CORNER

Two Faced Line

H/S PROMENADE 1 / 2 ...SLIDE THRU....PASS
THRU...VEER LEFT...(ENDS) ZOOM...COUPLES
CIRCULATE...BEND THE LINE...SLIDE
THRU...PASS THRU...TRADE BY...CORNER