

LES P'TITS CHARS

(Quebec - Canada)

This is a typical dance done in various regions of the province. "Ptit's chars" means little cars and especially little "tram cars" (once much in use in cities like Montreal). This contra dance form was taught by Normand Legault of Quebec City.

Rhythm: 2/4

Record: Any "reel" LARIDAINÉ 7801  
LARIDAINÉ 7902  
PHILO 2006 etc.

Formation: Two fairly long lines of couples in contra formations (longways). Lines face head (front) of hall. W on M's R. Outside hands on shldr of person in front, inside hand around partner's waist.

MEASUREDESCRIPTION

\* Note: "Caller" may call dozens of possible figures always going back periodically to "chorus" (train) step

CHORUS STEP

16 Everybody in "train" position takes 8 steps fwd. and 8 steps bkwd

Possible figures

16 Women follow head lady and go in front of M down the set & back up the set on your side

16 Same as above but for men

16 Both lines go down the set on your own side and come back up (at the same time)

16 Face partner - everybody swing

16 " " - Right elbow & left elbow turn

16 " " - "Do-si-do"

Progression figure

16 All cpls except first one makes an arch with partner. Head cpl dives under and goes to end of set etc.

Description by Yves Moreau