

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2011
Montreal, Quebec

The President called the meeting to order at 8:40 am.

Welcome by, Adelaide Daraspe, President. She briefly described the events planned for the weekend of their 15th Anniversary, including a performance by the Basque Trio Kalakan.

Introductions and Roll Call

Officers

President – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea
Vice-President – Mary Gaztambide, excused
Treasurer – Grace Mainvil
Secretary – Marisa Espinal
Facilitator – John Ysursa
Euskara Coordinator – Izaskun Kortazar

Committee Chairperson

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, excused
Video – Jesus Pedroarena, excused
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea, excused
Udaleku – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea, Kate Camino
Mus – Pierre Etcharren
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre
Pilota – Evelyne Etcharren, on-line
History – no Chairman

Club Delegates

Anaitasuna Basque Club	Marisa Espinal Gina Espinal Aguerre
Basque Educational Organization	Yvonne Hauscarriague+proxy
Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Cindy Schaffeld + proxy
Boise Euskaldunak, Inc.	Steve Achabal Annie Gavica
Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture	Cindy Schaffeld (2 proxies)
Center for Basque Studies, Reno	Kate Camino
Chino Basque Club	John Ysursa + proxy
Euskal Lagunak-Mountain Home B. C.	Goisalde Jausoro + proxy
Euskaldunak Quebec	Adelaide Daraspe Sylvie Nadaud

Iparreko Ibarra
Los Banos Basque Club
Marin Sonoma Basque Club
New York Euskal Etxea

Oinkari Dancers
Ontario Basque Club
Reno Zazpiak Bat Basque Club
San Francisco Basque Club

San Francisco Basque Cultural Center

Santa Rosa Basque Club, Paradise, NV
Seattle Euskal Etxea
Society of Basque Studies
Southern California Basque Club

Mike Uro
Matthew Etchepare (proxy)
Pierre Etcharren
Jose Antonio Alcayaga
Vasco Bilbao-Bastida
Annie Gavica (2 proxies)
Grace Mainvil
Manny Villanueva
Jean Pierre Elissetche
Matthew Etchepare
Gratien Etchebehere
Pierre Etcharren
Annie Gavica + proxy
Joe Guerricabeitia
Anna Aguirre
Gina Espinal Aguerre (2 proxies)

Guests

Ibon Santiago, New York
Evelyne Dufau, Toronto
Jean Claude Elissalde, Quebec

On-line Guests (technical difficulties)

Philippe Acheritogaray, San Francisco
Robert Guerenabarrena, Rhode Island

Approval of the July 2011 Minutes

Marisa Espinal submitted the July 2011 minutes.

Anna Aguirre made a correction under future meetings. The Euskal Etxea of New York is celebrating their 100th Anniversary, not their 50th.

- Jean Pierre Elissetche motioned to accept the July meeting minutes with the corrections as noted. Steve Achabal seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Grace Mainvil)

No report at this time because the Treasurer was out of the country. She had informed the delegates in July at the meeting in Buffalo that she would not have a report for this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (Please see submitted reports for full details see addendum a)

Pilota (Evelyne Etcharren, on-line)

Evelyne gave the report on-line. There were some technical difficulties.

The Boise Invitational went very well. The 2012 Pilota Handball Finals will be held in Elko during the Festival and N.A.B.O. Convention. At the time of the meeting she has only heard from Boise and is still waiting to hear from San Francisco and Bakersfield.

San Francisco will hold a Paleta Cuero training on October 28 - 30. Those interested should contact Gratien Etchebehere.

The World Pilota Council will hold the fall tournament in Bilbao from 11/30 – 12/10. N.A.B.O. will be sending three teams, women's paleta goma, men's baleen and men's left wall cuero. This is the first time we will be sending players from Boise, San Francisco and Bakersfield to participate in an International Tournament. Ysabel Bilbao will go as the N.A.B.O. coach.

The World Pilota Council is holding a two-week workshop from 9/25/11 - 10/10/11 in Boise with an instructor from Vizcaya. Eight people have signed up so far.

The World Pilota Council should communicate with the Pilota Chairperson and then be directed to the proper party at the local club level. The event in Boise was planned without proper coordination between Boise, the Pilota Chairperson and the World Pilota Council.

Evelyne has asked for two pilota contacts from each club.

Video: (Jesus Pedroarena, excused)

The format of the EITB.com page has changed. You can now access TV or radio. Please see the facilitator's packet for full details.

Calendars: (Mary Lou Urrutia, excused)

2012 Calendars are now available. They remain the same price at \$5.00 each. Mary Lou worked with Elkar and the calendars have a new format. Contact Mary Lou to get your calendars. Maybe you can coordinate to pick them up in Gardnerville in October. If Mary Lou ships them to you, your club must pay shipping costs.

Euskara: (Martin Goicoechea & Izaskun Kortazar)

Izaskun reported there may soon be an instructor in Seattle, up to this point they have been using Skype and an instructor from Boise. The instructor from Miami moved to New York, so there are now two instructors in New York. He is helping the students in Miami through BOGA. Chino's instructor has been too busy to hold classes. A flyer was made to help promote Basque Language classes at the Basque centers. The director Javi Zubizarreta will make a short promotional video for You Tube advertising Basque classes for children and adults. They are

still looking for more instructors for the on-line teacher course. There are currently 14 student teachers. Izaskun would like to see more and she would like to see other regions represented. The teachers are only from Boise and San Francisco and now Rhode Island. It's not too late to join the intensive training. The instructor program is free if you commit to a three-year training, an annual one-week Barnetegui, complete 80% of the homework and it requires a commitment of 3-5 hours a week. Please check at your Euskal Etxea to see if anyone is interested in becoming a teacher. The annual Teacher's Conference will be in October. They will be able to split into two workshops with Itxaso Cayero helping Izaskun, with one workshop for teaching adults and one for teaching children.

There is now a Webpage, www.naboeuskaraz.com / www.ameriketaneuskaraz.com and a Facebook page, Nabo Euskaraz.

Anita Anacabe Franzoia shared a link for cartons in Basque which you can find in the Kid's Korner on the website. Please send any links you find to Izaskun. December 3rd is the International Day of Euskara. Please let Izaskun know what your club is planning. There may be funds available to help you plan a project at your club.

There are a couple of new Documentaries about the Basques. Amaya Oxarango Ingram directed "Basques in the West" in English soon to be translated into Basque. Javi Zubizarreta directed Zuretzako in Basque with English subtitles. They hope to present these documentaries at the World Congress.

Ahotsak, the interview project of older Basques and their use of Euskara and their migration to America, is looking for interviewers. You must speak Basque, and may be paid for interviews. Please discuss this at your Euskal Etxea and let Izaskun know if anyone is interested.

Itxaso Cayero now will be helping Izaskun translate. They would like all of our club webpages to be in Basque. Email izaskunkortazar@gmail.com

Kate Camino shared that this year for the first time at the University of Nevada, Reno the Euskara class reached 15 students 13 of which are of Basque descendents.

Boise University will now be offering a more advanced class, the upper division class has 8 people.

Vasco Bilbao requested that Izaskun's contact info, izaskunkortazar@gmail.com, be added near her picture on the N.A.B.O. website.

History:

No Chairman at this time.

Udaleku: (Kate Camino & Valerie Arrechea)

Udaleku 2011: A simplified version of financials is in the facilitator's packet. The potxpolins are not included because they will be used at other camps. No grants are reflected, nor are donations from other clubs included. They are included in the general Udaleku account rather than as income in this year's

camp finances. Only the donation from the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center for food costs is reflected. The parents of participants returned very few surveys about the one-week format, about 18 out of 80 responded.

Udaleku 2012: Boise will host Udaleku next year at the end of July, the two weeks prior to San Ignacio Festival. Boise will be able to accommodate up to 105 kids and would like to charge \$350 per camper. The spaces will be filled on a first come, first serve basis with the application being submitted on-line. Paypal will be set up so that fees can be paid online as well.

Beti Gazte: (Tyler Smith, excused)

The Youth event was not as successful as last year. There was a poor turnout.

Mus: (Pierre Etcharren)

They are getting ready for the International Mus Tournament in France. Etienne Ybarra and Benat Inchauspe were to represent the United States. Benat Inchauspe is unable to attend; Etienne Jorajuria will be his replacement. The coach going with them is Jean Baptiste Bidegaray.

The 2012 International Mus Tournament will be in Vancouver on a cruise ship to Alaska. It will be held Friday, 9/21 – 9/29/12. The cost will be \$1600 for a non-window room, \$2000 for a room with a window, and \$2200 for a room with a balcony. After the International Mus Group accepts their proposal it will be posted at www.globalmus.com

The expenses for N.A.B.O. will be about the same as other years. There is a \$1200.00 fee per participating country. We will give plaques, calendars and possibly pins with Basque & American flags to all participants. Next year the United States Mus finals will be held in Chino, California. All clubs are strongly encouraged to participate.

Junior Mus: (Gina Espinal)

Gina is working on the history of Junior Mus. She received many suggestions on how and where to hold Junior Mus Tournaments. She is planning to contact one member from each club to see what clubs' needs are in order to facilitate a Junior Mus event. For example, one club asked her to help facilitate their Junior Mus Tournament. If your club has not sent a Mus contact to Gina please do so. Mus cards are still available. Please contact Gina if your club needs more. They make great stocking stuffers at Christmas! The 2nd place Junior Mus winners carried their trophies through the Parade in Buffalo, Wyoming.

Kantari Eguna: (Noel Goyhenetche, excused)

This year it was held in Gardnerville. Urko Menaia performed. "Amuma Says No" played. Kate Camino mentioned that maybe we need to formalize the event and request people to cease talking. Perhaps close the bar. Gratien Etchebehere concurred. Mike Uro mentioned that Rocklin closed the bar to help limit

extraneous conversation. A bar was available outside the hall. The songbooks were handed out to make the event more interactive, which many people felt made it more successful. The president assured the delegates that she would share their concerns with Gardnerville, but reminded them that the hosting club is responsible for setting up the event as they see fit. The 2012 Kantari Eguna will be held in Lincoln, CA in conjunction with the Iparreko Ibarra Basque Club's annual October picnic.

Chorizo/Tripota Contest: Gratien Etchebehere

The inaugural 2011 N.A.B.O. Chorizo/Lukainka/Tripota Cook-off was very successful. There were 15 different sausages entered for the two different categories. The winners were Toni Sabarots from Seattle, Washington in the chorizo/lukainka category and the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center in the morcilla/tripota category. Next year it will be held in Elko, Nevada and it is hoped there will be more participation. Joe Guerricabeitia asked about rules. It is based on an honor system that sausages will be homemade. Manny Villanueva would like to see a tortilla competition added.

Facilitator's Report: (John Ysursa)

The N.A.B.O. Convention will be in conjunction with the Elko festival next summer. The idea is to make N.A.B.O. front and center because many people still do not know what we do. We would like to try pilot programs in Elko. One idea is a **Basque Team Olympics**, possibly for youth ages 13-19. One area of common concern among clubs is about the lack of participation by this age group. Rocklin tried the cooking camp; there was very little interest. We need more youth buy-in. One idea is to start locally, with small teams of 6 - 8. Each team would have colored T-shirts. For example, Chino (known for its dairy farms) can wear all white with black splashes. (For more ideas see John Ysursa.) A large community can send several teams of 6. Events would be held throughout the festival weekend with a mix of more serious competitions such as weightlifting, and more lighthearted competitions such as egg toss contests. We need strong encouragement from the local level. One of the challenges we face is that a child now has more choices. When we were young our choices were more parent directed.

Gaztemundu, a two-week program sponsored by the Basque Government, has not had a lot of participation from the United States. The youth chosen have their trip paid for and their room and board as well. One of the reasons for low participation is it is held in November when many youth would be in school. November is summer in Argentina, which traditionally has a large participation in Gaztemundo. Could we have something youth-oriented here in the United States with a moderator from each club?

Joe Guerricabeitia asked what are some of the blocks to having more interest or participation in youth events. We need more investigation into what youth would

be interested in. Jean Pierre Elissetche suggested getting parents input on kids' interests. Matthew Etchepare suggested looking at who the ringleader is at the local level, get their buy-in, and never underestimate the power of peer pressure. Valerie Arrechea suggested there is too much competition with other interests, jobs, camps, and sports. A weekend vs. a week would work better. One key element to youth buy-in is having them be in charge. Matthew Etchepare suggested kids that age are competitive, so a competition would be a good idea. Vasco Bilbao echoed Valerie's comments that the youth must be in charge and responsible. He mentioned some of the things that worked with Beti-Gazte were tele-conferences, keep it simple - have templates for how to organize an event. John Ysursa mentioned John Goyenatche from Kern County is part of a dairy youth leadership group. We have people with templates and ideas of how to organize a youth group.

- Does N.A.B.O. want to create a youth initiative, a weekend leadership workshop?
- John Ysursa made a motion to invite the president of FEVA, Ricardo Basterra, to pick his brain about their youth events with which they are having some success. John made it very clear this is in no way related to previous meetings with FEVA, which were aimed at creating a World Basque Association of Diapsora with a political agenda. This would be strictly a cultural exchange. Gina Espinal asked about the cost. John explained the cost would include the flight and room and board during the convention. After much discussion these motions were rescinded.
- John motioned that N.A.B.O. declares the **Year of Basque Youth** from 2012 - 2013. Beginning with the Basque Olympics at the Convention in Elko. Seconded by Gratien Etchebehere. Unanimously approved. Every four years we have specific youth events generated at the local club level. Annie Gavica suggested that all clubs be invited to each club's events. The definition of youth would be high school through college, roughly 13 – 30 years old. It may vary from club to club based on population and need.

There will be a dance teleconference so each club can plan what dances they will perform at the convention without a lot of repeating the same dances. There will be a Dance instructors' workshop soon with the theme of Zuberoaka Maskarada. The Delegate Sokadanza is being developed by the Bricolage project for the convention in Elko.

Gurea: The Basque Cultural Literacy Project - Entertain and Educate

The Basque Government sends interns to help facilitate cultural/educational workshops for smaller clubs who don't have programs in place. The cost to the club would be room and board. The Basque Government covers the airfare. The entertainment would be musical groups. Urko Menaia traveled to five Basque communities this year.

Cultural tours may happen yearly, but they will be available every 2-3 years in your area as it moves through regions. West includes Fresno, San Francisco and Seattle areas. North includes Boise area, Salt Lake City, Buffalo and Rock Springs. South covers the Southern California area, Las Vegas and New Mexico. Central includes the Reno area, Elko area, Winnemucca and Denver. Eastern is Washington D.C., the New York area, Montreal, Miami and Rhode Island.

If your club is hosting a convention keep in mind that N.A.B.O. will be taking a part in planning events. For example, in Elko we will be celebrating Basque Sports. We have some ideas to share with New York. Perhaps the theme for Bakersfield in 2014 could be Pilota.

Gure Aldi "Our Turn" to give back.

One project is suggesting the Bone Marrow Registry at the World Congress. The goal is to give back and be visible in your community. The San Francisco Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco has developed a relationship with South San Francisco and helped facilitate a sister city project with Saint Jean Pied de Port. They also invite local city council members to their festival. Boise is another great example of working with the larger non-Basque community. In celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Oinkari at the Boise City Hall, they thanked the mayor and Governor for their support. John suggested starting at the local level and moving it to state level. Boise also recognizes the mayor and others at every Jaialdi. Mountain Home participates in the Air Force Appreciation Day. Reno has been approached by the local city government to spearhead the fund for the repair of the Monument to the Basque Shepherders.

Old Business

"Parc de l'Aventure Basque" (PABA)

A presentation by Jean Claude Elissalde. The first people in Canada were Basque. They were called Indianauk, the ones who saw the Indians. Basque whalers came to Trois Pistol. Its location was chosen by whalers for its proximity to water and an area to hold large cauldrons of whale fat. There is now a museum located there. The center, which has a restaurant, bar and fronton, is dedicated to sharing with locals. They are close to the ferry stop and have a lot of tourists. It is very important to them to bring together Basques and non-Basques. They are open to non-Basques because they have very few Basques living in Trois Pistol. PABA was the first Basque center in Canada.

PABA has no funding from the Basque Government. They receive funding from the Canadian Ministry of Culture, the Quebec Ministry of Culture, and the Euskal Kultur Erakundea in Ustaritz, Iparralde, and the City of Trois Pistol. The PABA Board looks for people of Basque descent to sit on the Board. The Center is open all year, but with limited services during the winter. Euskara classes are offered

from May to October. Pilota training is also available. There is renewed interest in pilota in Trois Pistol. They have also offered Basque-cooking classes. Music and dance is available in the summer through the participation of groups invited from the Basque Country.

They would like to invite N.A.B.O. youth next summer to stay at Trois Pistol. They would offer classes on the history of Basque Whalers and on Basque Genealogy. PABA does not qualify as an euskal etxea recognized by the Basque Government. PABA doesn't have members, they have staff. The museum and center is open to the public. PABA is working on that and/or being recognized as a Basque Cultural Center. They hope if they were not recognized by the Basque Government N.A.B.O. would make an exception and accept PABA as a member. They hope being associated with N.A.B.O. would bring recognition and awareness of the existence of PABA. They have shared information with the Basque Museum and Cultural Center in Boise. Adelaide Daraspe suggested PABA join Euskadulnak Quebec. The representative from PABA met with some of the officers from Montreal over lunch and will work with them for now.

Lunch break 12:00 – 2:00

World Congress

The delegates were given a few minutes to read the minutes from the July meeting in Buffalo for all the information voted on about the World Congress. The World Congress is a meeting of the Basque Diaspora to exchange ideas and information. This year it will be held in San Sebastian, November 2 – 4, 2011. The three delegates chosen were: Yvonne Hauscarriague, Goisalde Jausoro, and Izaskun Kortazar, with Ysabel Bilbao as an alternate.

N.A.B.O. suggestions to present at World Congress are: an International Bone Marrow Registry, Gurea "It is ours" the Oral History projects to encourage younger members to interview older Basque Diaspora, Gurea Internet Telecasts - events of the Diaspora be broadcast via the Internet, and the Basque Government would be asked to facilitate an exchange program to send Basques to the United States because we get so many requests to house people willing to teach Basque for room and board during the summer that we are unable to accommodate.

What do we want in the booth? We have not been given the dimensions of the booth or what materials should be included. Some suggestions made by the delegates were; a N.A.B.O. brochure with history, pictures, Mus cards & Tournament information, watches, and how many kids have attended Udaleku. Steve Achabal asked if any other clubs have big anniversaries that could be advertised – SF -30, Reno – 45, Bakersfield – 70, 50th anniversary of Oinkaris and SF Zazpiak Dance Group.

If the Basque Museum or New York doesn't have their own booth they will have materials to share at the N.A.B.O. booth. Marisa Espinal volunteers to man the booth during the congress.

Annie Gavica, Kate Camino, Vasco Bilbao, Adelaide Daraspe, Philippe Acheritogaray, and Cindy Schaffeld would also be interested in being in on the teleconference about the World Congress.

Special Presentations:

Evelyne Dufau runs a travel agency and organizes tours to the Basque Country. She met the artist, Michel Hakala, the artist who produced the work on Basque whalers that was exhibited at the Euskadulnak Quebec in Montreal. Isle d'Basques is across from PABA. Only recently discovered on the island is the oven where whale was cooked. It is said that Basques took their first steps in North America in Canada.

The artist would like to build a sculpture along the Saint Laurent River representing harmonious relationships between Basque whalers with indigenous people. Another idea would be a mural on the west coast representing Basque history in North America. Something like the murals by Diego Rivera in Mexico. The purpose of this presentation is to see the interest of N.A.B.O. for these types of projects. 1. The mural on the west coast. 2. The sculpture on the bank of the Saint Laurent River. 3. An exhibition of the paintings of Michel Halaka at the Basque Museum. If you want more information on the artist you can find it on frenchtourswest.com.

Iparraldeko Konpilazioa

Iparraldeko Konpilazioa, a group from Iparralde showed a DVD. They are a consortium of musicians interested in sharing the musical scene from Iparralde with the Diaspora. It's an annual compilation of music from the north and south of the Basque Country. They only recently started their International compilation and participation in International Music Festivals. The promotional vinyl compilation given to the delegates include the groups selected this year. All of the editions are available for free download at www.iparraldekokonpilazioa.org Some of their main supporters are Institut Cultural Basque, the City of Andai, Euskaldunak Quebec, EHZ, Arana Rock, Promomusika, and many other local and regional administrations.

They suggest including a link on the N.A.B.O. website and a musical tour. The Iparraldeko Konpilazioa is very familiar with the musical scene and know how to organize musical events, rent venues or instruments. They would be happy to help organize a musical tour of North American Euskal Etxeak. Vasco Bilbao asked if the Basque Government would help sponsor a musical group from the north. There was discussion that cultural tours sponsored by the Basque Government need to be from Guipuzkoa, Alaba or Vizcaya.

New Business

Udaleku 2012 – Fees and Application Dates

- Annie Gavica made a motion that Boise charge \$350 a week per child for Udaleku 2012. 2nded by Jean Pierre Elissetche. Unanimously passed. Most day camps in cities are about that price for one week. The tuition for Udaleku is usually voted on at the fall meeting. On-line applications generally open after the February meeting. This year a non-refundable deposit will be required through Pay-Pal. Scholarships available through the N.A.B.O. Aita Marcel Tillous Fund.
- Cindy Schaffeld motioned that the date established for acceptance of on-line applications be March 1st. This would apply to all future Udalekus. The motion was 2nded by Steve Achabal. Unanimously passed.
- Matthew Etchepare made a motion to close on-line applications on May 1st. Manny Villanueva 2nded. Unanimously passed.

Facilitator Nominations

The only application submitted for the position of Facilitator was by John Yursa.

- Grace Mainvil made a motion that John Yursa be the N.A.B.O. facilitator for 2012. 2nded by Jean Pierre Elissetche. Unanimously passed.

East Coast Club Presentations

New York

Vasco Bilbao explained it was founded in 1913. Many immigrants used the Euskal Etxea New York as a stopping point on their way west and were offered help in navigating in the United States. They will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2013 in conjunction with the NABO Convention in July. They have a lot of events planned, but are open to suggestions if people have ideas or would like to help organize.

The Center will welcome Lehendakari, Patxi Lopez, in October 2011.

Ricardo Ribera, a doctoral candidate will be giving a presentation on Basque language on October 2nd. See the website for more information.

Aberri Eguna is one of their biggest events. People come from all over for the dinner.

The Euskal Etxeak has a good turnout at large events, but want suggestions from other clubs who have also experienced waves in membership and participation. Please contact Vasco Bilbao at bilbao@post.harvard.edu or email Valerie and she will forward it to him.

Rhode Island

The Rhode Island Basque Club started as a soccer club in 1990. They held men only dinners and paella picnics. When the Jai Alai was active in Rhode Island there was no need for a club. Everything happened out of the Jai Alai Court. When it closed in 2003 those who remained met monthly to keep in touch and decided to form a club. They continue to meet monthly, have picnics, celebrate Aberri Eguna, and a Christmas party.

Membership increased when they joined N.A.B.O. Their goal is to have 100 members by next August, including people from nearby Connecticut. They have a squash team, a soccer team, and two aiskolaris. They have held Euskara classes in the past and look forward to being able to offer classes again in the future. They have not yet been recognized by the Basque Government as an Euskal Etxea.

Washington, DC Euskal Etxea

This is a Basque Club formed in 2006 that gathers people from the greater Washington DC area with the purpose of: keeping and practicing the culture and traditions of the Basque people, engaging in educational, social, and recreational activities to bring together those interested in the Basque people, supporting the members in any reasonable matter, and promoting Basque culture in the greater community.

The origin of the Washington, DC Euskal Etxea traces back to October 2005 when the French Embassy hosted a screening of the Tim Kahn film, "The Last Link". Two of the club's founders, Argia Beristain Dougherty and Jurdana Izagirre Artaza met at this event and later decided to organize a big gathering to reach out to other Basques in the area with the goal of creating a Basque Club in DC. The initial meeting took place in July 2006 with more than 30 people. Five months later the Washington, DC Euskal Etxea was officially incorporated.

They became members of N.A.B.O. in 2007. Their annual events include; the Aberri Eguna picnic, a Piperra dinner, a movie night, the Olentzero party, and musical concerts. They have been offering Euskara classes since 2009. Their membership is up to 40 people, most of them young professionals.

Society of Basques Studies in America

Anna Aguirre informed the delegates the 30th Basque Hall of Fame was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina where the Society of Basque Studies recognized FEVA. It is the oldest organization with largest number of Diaspora in the world, dedicated to preserving Basque culture.

The Society of Basque Studies in America is in the process of transferring the responsibility of the Journal of The Society of Basque Studies in America to the Center for Basque Studies at Boise State University. They are currently putting together an Editorial Board. The Society would also like another organization to continue the Basque Hall of Fame's tradition of recognizing those who have contributed to Basque identity and culture and welfare. Please don't hesitate to talk to Anna if you would like to be involved.

Emilia Doyaga will no longer be able to participate in the Society of Basque Studies in America due to her health.

Dues

The one club Grace Mainvil mentioned in the Treasurer's report at the last meeting that had not paid their dues, has now paid. Izaskun Kortazar helped Grace get the correct contact information.

Basque Museum in Boise

Would like to extend an invitation to all clubs to host a traveling exhibit of "Hidden in Plain Sight" at local museums. The Museum will take pictures of your community and include a special section personalized for your area.

New items

Two meetings per year.

Cindy Schaffeld would like to revisit the idea of having only two meetings. She would like to see only a summer and winter meeting. We are looking at improving our technology so we can have one on-line meeting. Gratien Etchebehere pointed out that we still had a lot to cover and it has only been 9 weeks since our last meeting. Before we give voting rights to people on-line we need to work out the technological kinks and change the by-laws. John Ysursa reminded the delegates that if the meetings were further apart the officers would need greater decision-making power.

Manny Villanueva reminded everyone that we voted on this issue last year. The same issues, pros and cons were brought up then; the expense of 3 meetings, the lack of face to face contact, would fewer meetings encourage more participation from smaller clubs or east coast clubs, it offers clubs an opportunity to showcase their members and accomplishments. Joe Guerricabeitia brought up clubs who can't afford to send a delegate find internal ways to fund the trip or apply for a grant from the Basque Government. Mike Uro suggested we have more meetings on the east coast to have more participation from the east coast clubs. Yvonne Hauscarriague mentioned meetings are held when clubs offer to host and not all east coast clubs may be able to host meetings more often due to cost or clubhouse limitations.

The consensus was to table this discussion for now. The President thanked Cindy for bringing the topic up and it may need to be revisited in the future.

Day of Euskara

Izaskun Kortazar would like N.A.B.O. to set a Day of Euskara. She will email a proposal.

Basque Linked-in

Joe Guerricabeitia mentioned he and Denis from Montreal would like to see a Basque Linked-In.

Committee Analysis

The delegates were asked to review the analysis of the committees, discuss it at their clubs, and be prepared with ideas at the February meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Future Meeting Schedule:

2012

Winter: San Francisco, Saturday, February 18, 2012

Summer Convention: Elko July 6, 2012

Fall: Mountain Home, Idaho, October 6, 2012 (Benan's Birthday)

2013

Winter: Salt Lake City, UT (usually February)

Summer Convention: New York, (the 100th Anniversary of EENY and 40th Anniversary of N.A.B.O.)

Fall: open

Future Convention Dates:

2014: Bakersfield, CA

2017: Chino, CA

Respectfully submitted by Marisa Espinal, N.A.B.O. Secretary.