

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2012
Mountain Home, Idaho

The President called the meeting to order at 8:20 am.

Welcome by Tom Rist, the mayor of Mountain Home. Richard Urquidi, the President of the Mountain Home Euskaldunak was unable to attend and asked the mayor to welcome the delegates to Mt. Home.

Introductions and Roll Call

Officers

President – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea
Vice-President – Mary Gaztambide
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, excused
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre, excused
Pilota – Evelyne Etcharren, excused
History – no Chairman
Txerriki – Gratien Etchebehere
Kantari Eguna – Noel Goyhenetche, excused
Beti Gazte – Kristiane Bizkarra, via cell phone

Club Delegates

Anaitasuna Basque Club	Marisa Espinal + proxy
Basque Educational Organization	Marisa Espinal + proxy
Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Patty Miller Cindy Schaffeld
Basque Club of Utah	Mary Gaztambide Nancy Trevino
Boise Euzkaldunak, Inc.	Steve Achabal Annie Gavica
Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture For part of meeting	Gloria Tortoricaguena Patty Miller (proxy)

Center for Basque Studies, Reno
Chino Basque Club
Elko Euskaldunak
For part of the meeting also held a proxy
Euskal Lagunak-Mountain Home B. C.

Iparreko Ibarra
Kern County

Los Banos Basque Club
Marin Sonoma Basque Club
Oinkari Dancers

Ontario Basque Club

Reno Zazpiak Bat Basque Club
For part of the meeting
San Francisco Basque Club
San Francisco Basque Cultural Center
Santa Rosa Basque Club, Paradise, NV

Seattle Euskal Etxea
Southern California Basque Club
Txoko Ono, Homedale, ID
Vancouver
Winnemucca

Kate Camino + proxy
John Ysursa + proxy
Anita Anacabe Franzoia
Bob Echeverria
Goisalde Jausoro
Gina Gridley
Jean Pierre Elissetche (2 proxies)
John Ysursa (proxy)
Marisa Espinal (proxy)
Jean Pierre Elissetche (2 proxies)
J. P. Elissetche (2 proxies)
Tyler Smith
Lael Uberuaga
Grace Mainvil
Lisa Corcostegui
Kate Camino + proxy
Manny Villanueva (2 proxies)
Jean Pierre Elissetche + proxy
Gratien Etchebehere
Susan Gavica
Alaina Gavica
Joe Guericabeitia + proxy
Marisa Espinal (2 proxies)
Susan Gavica (2 proxies)
Joe Guericabeitia (2 proxies)
Aliana Gavica (2 proxies)

Guests

Enrike Corcostegui, Ontario
Manny Villanueva, Reno
Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao , Basque Government Office New York
Miren Perez Eguireun, Basque Government Office Boise

On-line Guests

Technical difficulties

Approval of the July 2012 Minutes

Marisa Espinal submitted the July 2012 minutes.

- Bob Echeverria motioned to accept the July meeting minutes with no corrections. Cindy Schaffeld seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Grace Mainvil)

There has been some money received from the Basque Government that is not reflected in the financial report because it was received after the report had been submitted. It arrives in a lump sum and then is transferred to the appropriate accounts.

Pilota has been slowly building up their account. Only the four clubs with active pilota players have paid dues. The Jean Leon Iribarren fund is earmarked for pilota.

Grace just received the final accounting and receipts for Udaleku. She will have the full report ready for the next meeting. Money was transferred from the Aita Tillous fund to Udaleku for financial aid for three families.

Special Presentations:**Basque Government Representatives**

Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao of the New York office of the Basque Government is helping the New York Euskal Etxea to plan their 100th anniversary. They are celebrating the Basque Cultural Exchange for the next two weeks in New York City. They have Basque activities all over the city. They have a presence at New York University and the Institute Cervantes. The Extepare Institute is open to hearing about any ideas for activities that celebrate Basque culture in which you participate in your local cities. Noemi also introduced Miren Perez Eguireun of the Boise office of the Basque Government that is scheduled to open in late November, possibly December.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (Please see submitted reports in the Facilitator's packet for full details.)

Delegates were asked to read the committee reports. The reports were not reviewed during the meeting.

Euskara: (Martin Goicoechea & Izaskun Kortazar)

There is a possibility of holding a barnetegi in Santa Barbara next year.

There is also a possibility of another beginner's level barnetegi in the Basque Country if 8 people confirm they are interested.

History

Grace Mainvil gave a brief description of the Oral History Workshop in Boise given by Pedro Oiarzabal. Goisalde Jausoro, Gina Gridley, Grace Mainvil, Patty Miller, Izaskun Kortazar, and David Lachiondo of Boise State Basque Studies Program attended the workshop. One of the main points of the workshop is the importance of recording the stories of some of our older community members and their experiences coming to the United States. The two attendees who had registered for the workshop in Reno were unable to make it when it was moved to Boise.

Video: (Jesus Pedroarena, excused)

Calendars: (Mary Lou Urrutia, excused)

Pilota (Evelyne Etcharren, excused)

The World Pilota Council has invited Michelle Friebel to participate in a tournament in Caracas, Venezuela.

A trainer for youth may be sent Chino and Bakersfield. Boise and San Francisco had the opportunity to have a trainer last year.

Udaleku: (Kate Camino & Valerie Arrechea)

Udaleku 2012:

The president congratulated Boise for a very successful camp. Ana Mendiola, Gina Urquidi, and Miren Lete were in charge. Lisa Corcostegi gave a brief report on the culture class. She praised all of the kitchen staff and volunteers who kept the children well fed and well supervised so the instructors were able to concentrate on teaching.

Jexux Larrea, one of the instructors from the Basque Country, was operated on in Boise. He ruptured his Achilles heel, unfortunately his injury did not heal properly and he was operated on again in the Basque Country.

Goisalde Jausoro was asked to recount a story about a boy from Winnemucca. After the third day he asked when they would be serving Basque food. When they asked him to clarify, he responded, "Pigs feet."

Patty Miller mentioned that Txapas Txapartegi was a surprise guest who ended up staying and helping for the entire two weeks. He has experience working in Ikastolas in the Basque Country.

Steve Achabal reported that Gina Urquidi and Ana Mendiola enjoyed the systems set up by prior Udalekus. Paypal worked really well. Valerie Arrechea and John Yursa were very responsive. Housing was a bit of a challenge. The Udaleku Facebook page was very popular with many pictures uploaded by Lisa Corcostegi.

The memory book was only \$15.00 and included a DVD of the final performance. Poxpolins were \$30.00. Only five were given that were not paid for out of 103. The campers took their poxpolins home. Some that were left behind will be sent to Bakersfield as backups in case campers forget to bring theirs. Poxpolins that are purchased will be sent to Bakersfield labeled with their name.

One unexpected expense was the upgrade of Jexux's flight; because of his injury he was unable to fly coach. There was a bit of delay on whether his insurance would cover the cost of surgery. We may need to increase the insurance N.A.B.O. carries. The current amount is only \$10,000. Everyone who attends must have his or her own insurance. Grace Mainvil mentioned that our current insurance is through a carrier from Elko. Grace will look into prices for increasing our coverage.

Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao will send us the name of the insurance the Basque Government uses for temporary insurance when they send people to the United States.

A debit card for Udaleku was issued in Reno and Boise. Is there a need for N.A.B.O. credit cards? The Treasurer would prefer that hard copy receipts be submitted for reimbursements as well as a back up to reconcile any charges to the debit card.

Udaleku 2013

Udaleku will be held in Bakersfield next year June 16 – 30th. Applications will be available on-line March 1st. Bakersfield will set the limit of outside attendees as soon as they have firmed up the housing. Locals have priority because they typically are the families who house other attendees. Louis Urrutia is the point person for Bakersfield Udaleku 2013. Eneko Espino is interested in teaching Txistu again next year.

- Lael Uberuaga made a motion to set the price at \$350 based on Bakersfield's request. Lisa Corcostegui 2nded. Unanimously approved.

Mus: (Pierre Etcharren, excused)

The United States finals will be in Los Angeles in May or June. Please inform the Mus Chairman of the names of your clubs' winners.

International Mus:

Grace Mainvil went on the Mus cruise from Vancouver to Alaska and brought many of the souvenirs and gifts that were given to delegates and attendees by the Zazpiak Bat Vancouver Basque Club to show the N.A.B.O. delegates. She gave a brief description of the cruise and some of the activities offered. Grace commented that everything was very well organized. The Vancouver Club needed a minimum of 100 participants to cover the cost of the cruise. There were about 30 participants over the 100 minimum. The Vancouver Club used the extra money to pay for the wine at dinner for all of the Basque cruisers and the daily tips for the cabin staff and the dining room staff that are normally charged to each room. Grace urged all delegates to put going on a cruise on their bucket list.

Fidel Marcos and Pedro Mariscurena represented the United States. They came in 3rd. France came in first. Argentina came in 2nd.

Next year the International Mus Tournament will be in Chile. It is usually held in October. It was earlier this year because of the cruise. The United States has signed up to host the International Mus Tournament in 2017.

Beti Gazte: (Kristiane Bizkarra, on-line)

Kristiane described plans for N.A.B.O. year of youth. She has been working with Anita Anacabe Francoia to plan the Basque Youth Olympic Village. She would like to see kids from neighboring clubs plan smaller get-togethers so they could meet more kids before larger all club youth events are planned. She would like the youth event to coincide with the Elko camp and end with the kids remaining for the convention.

John Ysursa informed the delegates that the Ikurrina would be the Basque Youth Olympic Torch. It will be sent from club to club for their youth events and will be brought to the Youth Olympic Village at the Convention in Elko. Salt Lake City will take the torch for their next event.

Here are some ideas for youth activities from our clubs:

- Lisa Corcostegui reported Ontario had a children's cooking class and they will soon be having regular cooking classes they will post on YouTube. Ontario has a Global Village and the Ontario Basque club has a baserri tent, sells food, and the children's dance group performs.
- John Ysursa reported that Chino would be having a Halloween event for the kids. They also have an event at Christmas.
- Kate Camino reported that in Reno for Udaleku they played "a minute to win it" and she thought it might be a good idea for first time dance class to make it fun and encourage participation.
- Gina Gridley reported Mt. Home held a Korrika run fundraiser.
- Gratien Etchebehere and Valerie Arrechea reported the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center does pilota, dance, Halloween, Christmas and a ski trip is being planned with Chino and Bakersfield.
- Joe Guericabeitia reported Seattle has very few youth in their club. They tried to have a dance group, but it didn't last.
- Steve Achabal reported Boise has regular ongoing activities, such as Olantzero at Christmas. They just hosted Udaleku 2012.
- Anita Anacabe Francoia reported that the Elko dance group is just being revitalized. They will be planning some activities to culminate with a Fourth of July camp-out.
- Susan Gavica reported the Santa Rosa club also has very few youth. They have an annual picnic and potlucks.
- Mary Gaztmbide reported Salt Lake City is planning to have the youth of the dance group go out and recruit other youth at hockey games, skiing, and the mus tournament.
- Lael Uberuaga reported the Oinkari annual events include: Halloween, Christmas party & gift exchange, group Oinkari monthly dinner, bowling tournament, camping, summer barbecue, float the Boise river, planning an ice skating activity, they also plan activities for fund-raisers.

Break 9:45 – 10:00 am

Education and Musical Culture Committees

John Ysursa has taken on many projects that are above and beyond the job description of facilitator. Two new committees, Education and Musical Culture have been formed to formalize some subjects that have until now been reported under the facilitator's report.

John Ysursa will be the Chair of Education. The committee will work on educational topics on the N.A.B.O. level and will help clubs who are interested in implementing educational items in their community.

Lisa Corcostegi and Caroline Chirramberro will co-chair the Musical Culture Committee. This committee will coordinate topics on dance, txistu and music.

Facilitator's Report: (John Ysursa)

NOKA will be performing in Mountain Home tonight after dinner. They performed in Ontario last night. NOKA was sponsored by a grant from the Basque Government. NOKA is a musical group from Chino, California. It was great to showcase our own local talent rather than always bringing over groups from the Basque Country.

John extended a big thanks to Bob Echeverria, Anita Anacabe Franzoia, and Elko for hosting the Convention. They are stepping up again and hosting the Convention next year – Basque Up! Bob thanked John for all his help MCing the event and organizing the all club group dance.

Gurea program –

The G Team went to Colorado, Rhode Island and Chino. Thanks to Colorado and Rhode Island for housing the G team. Initially people didn't express interest so Chino organized a workshop as well. Interns from the Office of the Basque Government present these workshops on Basque culture and language. The "G Team" name is derived from the fact that both interns' surnames begin with g. The previous interns, the "A Team" and "N Team", had first names that began with a and n. There is some question if we will have these workshops next year.

N.A.B.O. email addresses

John has created email addresses that are set up to go to their personal email for all of the officers and Chairmen to make contact easier. Here is a list:

President@nabasque.org

VP@nabasque.org

Treasurer@nabasque.org

Secretary@nabasque.org

bertsolari@nabasque.org

info@nabasque.org
calendar@nabasque.org
education@nabasque.org
euskara@nabasque.org
dance@nabasque.org
juniormus@nabasque.org
kantari@nabasque.org
pilota@nabasque.org
mus@nabasque.org
music@nabasque.org
txerriki@nabasque.org
udaleku@nabasque.org
video@nabasque.org
youth@nabasque.org

The delegates thought this was a great idea and strongly encouraged all clubs to set up something similar for their own clubs email. This would ensure delegates and communicators receive all correspondence from N.A.B.O.

Facilitator Position (Discussion of position, and vote on hiring the Facilitator for 2013)

The Facilitator position was originally the idea of the Basque Government. It is modeled after administrative positions funded by the Basque Government in Argentina. The Basque Government has loose guidelines as to what the position of facilitator should entail, something like a block grant. The responsibilities of the position have varied depending on who holds the Office of Director of the Diaspora in the Basque Government. John Ysursa has taken it on and expanded this position over the last seven years and as he steps down he leaves big shoes to fill. Someone asked John last year when he would be stepping down. He felt this year with his acceptance of a part time position at Boise State University Basque Studies Program would be the right time. It will be impossible to find someone who has all of the qualities John possesses. An application was made available on line, and six individuals applied. Currently none of the applicants have all of the same qualifications. This is a paid position, not an elected office.

There was discussion about splitting the position in two (one person for web, another for the rest) or allowing the Facilitator to hire an assistant as has been done with the Euskara Coordinator position. Southern California asked that John Ysursa remain as the Facilitator. He declined the full 20-hour commitment of the original position. He would consider remaining if he could have an assistant. The delegates felt it was important to honor the applicants who had applied for the position and not change the scope of the position at this time.

This position includes; web design and maintenance, grant management, technical assistance (setting up computer and other equipment at meetings), putting together the facilitator's packet with the committee reports. Most of the correspondence is in English, but about 40% is in Spanish and Basque, and an occasional email in French. Mary Gaztambide pointed out the facilitator should be very familiar with N.A.B.O. Izaskun Kortazar felt whoever holds this position must be as reliable and trustworthy as John; someone who is known to follow through with requests and projects in a timely and efficient manner. Kate Camino suggested we hold off changing this position until after the upcoming elections in the Basque Country. The facilitator's contract is based on a calendar year, January – December. This position is paid only when the money is received from the Basque Government.

Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao suggested if the funding is cut for this position we could ask the Basque Government to send one of their interns for 18 months. Noemi pointed out, there is no guarantee they would agree to this, it was just a suggestion.

Discussion and vote tabled until after lunch so copies of applications could be made available for the delegates. Efficiency, ethics and language skills were strongly emphasized.

There were five applicants. There was a sixth applicant but he had no affiliation with N.A.B.O. or any N.A.B.O. member club. Their qualifications were first anonymously outlined on a spreadsheet to be reviewed by the delegates. This helped break down the differences between applicants. The criteria included: fluency in Spanish, Basque, or French, web design experience, grants writing, and creating newsletters. The delegates then fully reviewed the applicants' applications. Delegates voted on which applicant to hire. Izaskun Kortazar and Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao were asked to count the votes, as they were not participating in the voting.

- Joe Guerricabeitia made a motion that we vote for the top 3 candidates. Cindy Schaffeld 2nd. Joe closed his motion.
- Gratien Etchebehere made a motion that we vote on whether the delegates feel there is at least one applicant who possesses all of the qualifications necessary. 2nded by Joe Guerricabeitia. Majority approved. 23 votes that there is one candidate who is qualified. 21 votes that there is not a candidate who possesses all of the qualities necessary for the Facilitator.
- After a ballot vote Kate Camino was hired as Facilitator with 25 votes. Annie Gavica was the 2nd applicant with the most votes at 8 votes. The other applicants in order of votes were Isabel Bilbao, Philippe Acheritogaray, and Evelyne Gaton Lanathoua with 7, 4, and 0 votes respectively. There were also several abstentions.

New Business

Application for membership by Boise State University Basque Studies Program

David Lachiondo is a 2nd generation Basque. He is the interim Director of the Basque Studies Program (BS) at Boise State University (BSU). Staff includes; John Beiter, Izaskun Kortazar, Nere Lete, and John Ysursa who will be the editor of the Journal of Basque Studies Consortium. The first edition will be out in spring. Lisa Corcostegi and John Ysursa also give workshops through the Basque Studies Program, which are often held at the Basque Museum and Cultural Center. BSU currently has an agreement with the Lehendakari's office and University of the Basque Country, which they hope will be renewed at each Jaialdi. The Basque Government supports the Basque studies Program with 50,000 euros a year through the Etxepare Institute and 10,000 euros from the Lehendakari's office.

BSU has a class and walking tour of historical Basque history in Boise. They have also provided classes and workshops outside of Idaho in Bakersfield and Argentina. Another goal of the Basque Studies Program is to host a soccer exhibition at BSU with Athletic Bilbao.

A strategic plan was recently completed for BS at BSU. They had over 5000 responses to a survey of how people would like to see BSU better serve the community. Some of the feedback was a request for online courses available to people outside Boise.

BSU cannot be recognized as an Euskal Etxea by the Basque Government. However, N.A.B.O. has made exceptions to allow other entities that are not Clubs become members; BEO, Cennarusa Foundation.

Gloria Tortaricaguena, Jean Pierre Elissetche, Bob Echaverria and Joe Guericabeitia were on the committee to review the paperwork of the Boise State University Basque Studies Program to become a member of N.A.B.O. Those chosen for committees are usually from different states to offer a cross section of opinions. The committee felt it was a good fit, but some questions on the application were not completely filled out. John Ysursa pointed out that some of the information was in the cover letter.

- Joe Guericabeitia made a motion to accept Boise State University Basque Studies Program as a member of N.A.B.O. Annie Gavica 2nded the motion. Unanimously approved. (There were some objections by Vandals fans :)
- Grace Mainvil motioned to waive the membership dues until January 2013. 2nded by Lael Uberuaga. Unanimously approved.

Quorum

Something to consider as we accept new members, the more members we have the greater number of delegates required to reach a quorum. Some clubs have never attended a meeting, although some clubs participate annually in N.A.B.O. functions. For example, Susanville sends children to Udaleku every year and in fact all of their fundraising is focused on completely subsidizing the full cost of attending the camp. They do not attend meetings.

We may need to change our by-laws. Steve Achabal suggested rather than weaken our infrastructure and change the quorum requirements, require member clubs to attend one meeting and submit their proxy. Another suggestion is to have an Associate membership that would not have voting rights. Cindy Schaffeld suggested having the Secretary follow up with clubs who don't respond. Patty Miller suggested that we get in writing from the non-attendees that they will be non-voting members. They could send their proxy but have a permanent abstention unless they are physically present. The by-laws state we could have a proxy good for the time stated on the written document. Joe Guericabeitia suggested notification in writing to each club. Izaskun Kortazar added she has gotten a better response to snail mail rather than email for Euskara workshops.

- Lael Uberuaga made a motion that clubs be sent a letter stating the by-laws and asking for their cooperation in helping us meet quorum. The clubs have three options:
 1. They may attend in person.
 2. They may send a proxy in writing allowing a vote.
 3. They may send a proxy for quorum, but abstain from voting.
- 2nded by Cindy Schaffield. Unanimously approved.

Izaskun Kortazar said Miami is no longer a club, but N.A.B.O. has never received written notification. Izaskun will search her emails for information about the Miami club.

Lunch break 1:00 – 2:00

Euskara Contract

The Euskara committee recommends that the dates of the Euskara contract be changed from September through June to January through December. There would be no increase to compensation. The contract would remain \$16,000 and be split between the Coordinator, Izaskun Kortazar and her assistant, Itxaso Cayero. The Euskara Coordinator does not work based on the school year, it is a year round position. This change would also make it more compatible with the grant cycle.

- Bob Echeverria made the motion to change the dates of the Euskara contract to twelve months. 2nded by Joe Guericabeitia. Unanimously approved.

New York

Noemi Gonzalo – Bilbao reported on the events planned for the 100th Anniversary of the Euskal Etxea of New York. She does not represent the Euskal Etxea of New York but has been involved in planning some of the events. Smaller, local events have been planned for all year long. There will be a gala to close the yearlong celebration over the Columbus Day weekend in October. Some ideas that have been discussed and are still in the planning stage but not yet confirmed include: Academic presentations on Basque immigration, Sunday mass and bay cruise, Columbus Day parade, and the Saturday night ball. They would like to have the Klika and N.A.B.O. dancers perform on Sunday and possibly in the Columbus Day Parade. There is an open invitation to all N.A.B.O. dance groups. The New York Euskal Etxea will not be extending financial aide to groups traveling to New York. There may also be a dance group coming from the Basque Country. They are hoping to get some subsidy from the Basque Government to lower the cost for participants.

Announcements:

Grace Mainvil announced the World Accordion Competition in Spokane, Washington 10/24 – 10/27/12. This competition has been going on for 62 years. This is the first time it will be held in North America.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

40th Anniversary of N.A.B.O.

The president asked for some brainstorming ideas of how we can celebrate throughout the year and begin or end with the convention in Elko. A few delegates remained for that meeting. Some ideas discussed were: a power point that each club has downloaded and makes available to it's members, recognize past presidents, something in the performing arts center, a float, keep N.A.B.O. activities on Saturday, Sunday for Elko's plans, or a Friday night kick off that N.A.B.O. plans and Elko secures the venue – ideally the Performing Arts Center, oral histories on the past presidents, have a video with photos and voiceover of the interviews, or a N.A.B.O. anniversary booklet showcasing the accomplishments of the past forty years and the past presidents. Did Argitxu Camou interview all past presidents? Where are the interviews stored?

Youth activities: N.A.B.O. could subsidize a pizza party for the dancers. Is it possible to get a grant from the BG for the participation of the youth at the 40th Anniversary? N.A.B.O. would cover the cost of the dance entrance and food for the youth between the fairgrounds and the dance. The dancers would need an identifying wristband or something. The dinner might be at the Clubhouse. N.A.B.O. would volunteer to help clean up before the dance. Send out a written invitation to the past presidents.

Future Meeting Schedule:

2013

Winter: Salt Lake City, UT, February 2nd

Summer Convention: July 6 - 7, Elko 50th Anniversary + 40th Anniversary of N.A.B.O.

Fall: New York, October 12th

2014

Winter: San Francisco, February 15th

Summer Convention: Bakersfield, CA

Fall: Rocklin, October

Future Convention Dates:

2013: Elko, NV

2014: Bakersfield, CA

2015: Boise, ID (as per Ana Mendiola)

2016:

2017: Chino, CA

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