

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes  
February 2, 2013  
Salt Lake City, Utah

The President called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.

Welcome by Mary Gaztambide, the President of the Basque Club of Utah. Mary let us know about the day's events. Lunch is at noon or 1:00 pm as per the needs of the delegates. Tickets for dinner are for sale at the bar. Tickets will be collected at dinner tonight. Lunch and dinner will be in the hall across from the meeting room. Those waiting for flights on Sunday are welcome to go to the Gaztambide's for lunch and mus around 1pm.

Introductions and Roll Call

**Officers**

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

**Committee Chairperson**

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, excused  
Video – Jesus Pedroarena, excused  
Education – John Yursa  
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea  
Udaleku – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea, Kate Camino  
Mus – Pierre Etcharren  
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre, excused  
Music/Dance – Lisa Corcostegui  
Pilota – Evelyne Etcharren, excused  
History – no Chairman  
Txerriki – Gratien Etchebehere, excused  
Kantari Eguna – Noel Goyhenetche, excused  
Beti Gazte – Kristiane Bizkarra, excused

**Club Delegates**

Alkartasuna	Martin Goicoechea + proxy
Anaitasuna Basque Club	Pierre Etcharren (2 proxies)
Basque Educational Organization	Pierre Etcharren (proxy)
	Matthew Etchepare (proxy)
Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Patty Miller

Basque Club of Utah

Big Horn Basque Club

Boise Euzkaldunak, Inc.

Boise State University, BSP  
Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture  
Center for Basque Studies, Reno  
Chino Basque Club  
Colorado Basque Club  
Elko Euskaldunak

Euskal Lagunak-Mountain Home B. C.  
Euskaldunak Quebec  
Fresno Basque Club

Gooding Basque Association  
Iparreko Ibarra  
Kern County Basque Club

Los Banos Basque Club  
Marin Sonoma Basque Club  
Mendiko Euskaldun 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

Txoko Ono, Homedale, ID  
Vancouver

Proxies for quorum only, no votes:  
New Mexico (Blas Uberuaga)  
Ventura (Pello Urrutia)  
LA Oberena (Pello Urrutia)

Cindy Schaffeld  
Mary Gaztambide  
Nancy Trevino  
Teresa Fieldgrove  
Ryan Fieldgrove  
Steve Achabal  
Annie Gavica  
John Ysursa + proxy  
Cindy Schaffeld (2 proxies)  
Kate Camino + proxy  
John Ysursa + proxy  
Mayi Petracek + proxy  
Amaya Ormaza Winer  
Bob Echeverria  
Goisalde Jausoro + proxy  
Marie Pouquie + proxy  
Juliet Campos  
Tony Campos  
Asun Bedialauneta + proxy  
Pierre Etcharren (2 proxies)  
Joey Iturrirra  
Teresa Echeverria  
Matthew Etchepare (2 proxies)  
Pierre Etcharren (2 proxies)  
Becky Sarratea-Murphy  
Noel Arraiz  
Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao (proxy)  
Tyler Smith + proxy  
Grace Mainvil  
Lisa Corcostegui  
Kate Camino  
Manny Villanueva  
Matthew Etchepare + proxy  
Pierre Etcharren + proxy  
Tyler Smith (proxy)  
Annie Gavica (proxy)  
Cindy Shaffeld (2 proxies)  
Elena Sommers + proxy

## **Guests**

Enrike Corcostegui, Ontario  
Asier Vallejo, Basque Government  
Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao, Basque Government Office New York  
Benan Oregi, Basque Government  
Joseba Etxarri, EuskalKultura.com

## **On-line Guests**

Technical difficulties

## **Approval of the October 2012 Minutes**

Marisa Espinal submitted the October 2012 minutes.

Bob Echeverria noted a correction on page 13; the date of the N.A.B.O. meeting for Elko will be on Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. The festival will be the 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> of July.

- Bob Echeverria motioned to accept the October meeting minutes with the corrections as noted. Steve Achabal seconded. Unanimously approved.

The President announced we have a quorum! Thirty-one clubs were represented in person or by proxy. Three additional clubs sent in their proxy but declined to vote. The president, Valerie Arrechea, thanked everyone for making the effort.

## **Treasurer's Report:** (Grace Mainvil)

The financial report given only includes information through December 31, 2012. Grace Mainvil has converted our accounting to Quick books beginning in January 2013. The Basque Museum and Cultural Center was the first to pay their dues for the year. Dues statements can't be sent out because the amount varies per club. Dues are payable January 1<sup>st</sup>, the fees are \$100 + \$1.00 per member in the club. N.A.B.O.'s fiscal year is the calendar year. Grace pointed out that Quickbooks requires invoices so N.A.B.O. will no longer be sending inventory before payment. Grace has been doing inventory and reminds us of the Amerikanuak book on hand. They are \$10.00/book. This is the last of the inventory that Bob Echeverria brought. This is 2<sup>nd</sup> reprint but there won't be a 3<sup>rd</sup> reprinting. She also has watches, flags, etc. for sale. The delegates were asked to read the Treasurer's report and ask any questions at the end of the meeting.

The president thanked the Campos family for the almonds the delegates enjoyed during the meeting.

## **Special Presentations:**

The President, Valerie Arrechea, read a letter from the new Lehendakari, Inigo Urkullu. The letter stresses that the internationalization of the Basque Country is essential to disseminate the Basque culture and identity. He would like to enhance the image of the Basque Country in the world and show the Basque Country as a country in its own right. We have to support each other at home as

well as abroad. The new Basque Government is proposing a new policy trying to expand that network through the government; strengthening existing programs, adapting budget constraints, focus on maintaining youth and language programs especially. They will be focusing on historical memory, concentrating on oral tradition compilations; keeping oral information to transmit this history to future generations. The participation of Basques worldwide is very important to the new government to reinforce their image abroad.

### **Basque Government Representatives**

The President introduced the new Director of Basque Communities and Citizens Abroad – Asier Vallejo.

Asier began speaking in Euskara, thanking everyone for the warm welcome he had received. Asier thanked John Yursa for his work as the N.A.B.O. facilitator and welcomed Kate Camino as the new facilitator. Asier congratulated Mary Gaztambide and the Basque Club of Utah for organizing such a great event!

Asier said it was a great honor for him to be in charge of the Basques abroad office. A policy has been proposed to meet the Basque community, through the euskal etxeak, but going further with the IDEA initiative, International Diaspora Engagement Alliance. It stresses the importance of the role of Diasporas in supporting homeland. Members know their communities best and so they hope to work closely with these individuals. We share a culture and a sense of identity, and a hope that it strives in the world. There will be budget restrictions for 2013, but grants will continue, especially for youth and Euskara. There will be a focus on recording oral histories in Basque communities. They would like to engage the euskal etxeak to help show the Basque country around the world, a strategy of strengthening branding of the Basque Country.

The president, Valerie Arrechea, thanked Asier and congratulated him on his new position.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS: (Please see submitted reports for full details.)**

Delegates were given a binder to keep facilitator's reports, committee reports, and minutes. The idea behind the binder is that information could be stored from past and current meetings and the binder would be passed to new delegates so that they could become familiar with N.A.B.O. business. The binder could be kept at each club so that all members could have access to the information.

### **Euskara:** (Martin Goicoechea & Izaskun Kortazar)

A flyer was handed out about the barnetegi for July 2013. They need 8 students for it to be tailored to students from the United States. There is a possibility of 3-week Basque intensive course this summer in Santa Barbara, contact Unai Nafarrate at [Nafarrate@gmail.com](mailto:Nafarrate@gmail.com) if interested. No further details are available at this point. There are water bottles and backpacks for sale at \$10.00 that will

help those studying to be future teachers. There has been an increase of interest in BOGA since the commercial came out. No one is being charged for BOGA classes. It is more of a self-paced class. The letter exchange between students in Boise and Basque students around the world has been very successful.

**Video:** (Jesus Pedroarena, excused)

Jesus encourages everyone to watch Canal Vasco, ETB Sat and EITB Alacarta. The quality of the image is very good. Also, listen to the 5 Basque radio stations, some in Spanish and some in Basque. These can be found at [www.eitb.com](http://www.eitb.com)

Local Basque stations can be found by way of Internet radio. Simply search for the city you are interested (Bilbao, San Sebastien, Bayonne, Mauleon, etc.)

**Calendars:** (Mary Lou Urrutia, excused)

Mary Lou apologized for not being able to make the meeting. Her new email is: [Marylou@gracegroup.com](mailto:Marylou@gracegroup.com) or through [calendar@nabasque.org](mailto:calendar@nabasque.org) She has noticed a decline in calendar sales, maybe due to missed emails. Could be due to the change in format? That has been corrected. The weeks in the 2013 calendar start on Sunday and she is hoping that will increase sales. Elkar reported an increase in sales from people looking for songs featured on the calendar.

2014 calendars will feature Center for Basque Studies (CBS) publications. The calendar will alternate between music and books to gain interest or provide information. The 2014 calendars will provide 14 layouts to use. Mary Lou is working closely with Dan Montero from CBS. It will now be possible to pay for calendars on PayPal. Information will be sent out once that is established. There will also be a Google doc order form for buying calendars. This will help with inventory as well.

2014 calendars will be ready to be picked up in Elko. All dates and photos must be submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The month of May is needed to edit. Clubs are expected to take a look at the calendar prior to publishing to make sure all is correct. Please send any corrections to [Marylou@gracegroup.com](mailto:Marylou@gracegroup.com) or [calendar@nabasque.org](mailto:calendar@nabasque.org)

The treasurer, Grace Mainvil, pointed out many clubs still owe for 2013 calendars, so please pay for them. Calendars are not cheap, they cost about \$6,000 to print them and for the last several years we are not getting our money back in sales. Grace acknowledges that she has not pursued payment, but people have to take responsibility to pay for calendars. Ask your treasurer about your clubs payment. On our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are becoming more businesslike, we will no longer do business just on trustworthiness.

The Buffalo delegate, Ryan Fieldgrove, shared some negative feedback he had received on the picture quality of last year's calendar. While acknowledging that

people often don't comment when they are pleased with the product he was wondering if the reason they have seen a decrease in orders is because of the grainy picture quality.

## **History**

The president is trying to figure out what to do with this committee. We are moving in the same direction as the Basque Government in regards to getting interviews done with older members. Pedro Oiarzabal's workshop had representatives from 5 different clubs. One idea was to have Pedro do another workshop via Skype to make it available to more people. We have different guidelines used in various Urazandi projects. These templates can be made available to everyone on-line. Clubs need to look at who they think are better people to interview. Look at folks not just in the club but also those in the community and start thinking in terms of age. These are the folks in their 90s, 80s etc. Not necessarily immigrants and not just Basque speakers. People in there 90s have their own experience as well as what their parents went through. These stories are important to document. Start with the oldest first.

Between now and the convention in Elko in July clubs are asked to compile a list of potential interviewees. When submitting the list of names of interviewees, include where they were born and the date of birth. We need to start somewhere. Actively search for people who will do these interviews so that we can get everyone in touch with each other. It will require a lot of people to do the interviews. It will be easier if we are working with others who are doing the same thing.

Juliet Campos shared that Fresno has 16 people in the 90+age bracket in their area. They also have a lot of 80 year olds who were born in this country of Basque parents. Juliet shared that many older people in there 90s reminisce about out houses, no electricity and going to school on a horse. Tony Campos, also from Fresno, told the story of a lady who is 98 years old, she will be 99 on July 4<sup>th</sup>. She confessed, "Well, I'm thinking maybe I have to give up my driver's license."

Patty Miler told of an interview of a man who was 95 and was in Gernika during the bombing. This gentleman confirmed what Smallwood said in his book, *The Day Gernika Was Bombed*. The Germans were asking, "who did this?" and the survivors just had to sit there and not respond. Xabier Irujo, from the University of Nevada Reno can get the book to you. The book is also available on Amazon. The book includes 126 interviews, all in the own words of the survivors.

Izaskun Kortazar feels this is a really big project and needs a N.A.B.O. leader. The president is working on who she thinks should lead the project. Hopefully, the history chair will be filled by the next meeting in Elko. We can't wait until we have everything in place to get started. Time is running short. Asier Vallejo

informed the delegates that the Basque Government is willing to provide any help that they can.

Steve Bass and George Ansolabehere just finished a book on Bakersfield, The Basques of Kern County. John Ysursa told the delegates the first part of the book is about Basques outside of Kern County. Grace Mainvil asked the Kern County delegates to please bring some of the books to the Elko convention. Gardnerville also has a book about their history.

Steve Achabal enquired if the list of the names would be on the N.A.B.O. website. Nothing will go online without permission. At this point we are simply asking to pinpoint potential folks to interview. We need to compile a list in one place, for internal use only.

Asun Bedialauneta asked, "If I send you a list of names from Gooding, who would do the interviews?" Ideally, someone from Gooding would do the interviews. We will provide infrastructure, format questions, etc.

John Ysursa expressed the hope that we find someone like a Steve Bass type to take on this project. If that does not happen we may need to consider hiring someone to carry this out, using help from local clubs. The hope is each community could do this, but we may have to finance this to get it done.

Joseba Etxarri pointed out it is important to take into consideration the language factor as well. If they speak Basque, interview them in Basque. Joseba volunteered to help with the interviews that needed to be done Basque.

This is a starting point. If you are interested in being on this committee please contact Valerie Arrechea at [president@nabasque.org](mailto:president@nabasque.org)

**Pilota** (Evelyne Etcharren, excused)

**N.A.B.O. Pilota Finals:**

The 2013 finals will be held in Boise, Idaho in conjunction with the San Inazio festival. It is also the 100-year anniversary of the Anduiza Fronton. The semi-finals will be played on Friday, July 26th and finals on Saturday, July 27th.

The following specialties will be played:

**Men's:** Class A Paleta Goma, Class B Paleta Goma, Veterans Paleta Goma, Class A Eskuz Singles, Class A Eskuz Doubles, Class B Eskuz Doubles, and Paleta Cuero

**Women's:** Baleen and Paleta Goma

*Please submit the names of your players no later than July 1st, 2013*

**World Pilota Council -- Workshops Summer 2013:**

The World Pilota Council (WPC) is set to send over an instructor for pala/eskuz this summer. They will pay his flights back and forth, as well as pay him a stipend; we meanwhile will be responsible for hosting him here (room and board and local transport). The schedule is tentatively as follows:

Bakersfield: June 16-29 in conjunction with Udaleku (confirmed),  
Elko: July 5-6-7-8, San Francisco: July 9-17, Boise: July 18-29.

The Pilota Chairman would like to suggest that N.A.B.O. help with the cost of room and board for the coach, allotting \$20 per day for the hosting club. Patty Miller thought that was a reasonable request. The treasurer, Grace Mainvil, confirmed that the pilota account has enough funds.

- Matthew Etchepare moved that N.A.B.O. help clubs with sponsoring part of these workshops. Tony Campos 2nded the motion. Unanimously passed.

The president reminded the delegates that Clubs could use that money as needed for these workshops. N.A.B.O. doesn't organize these events. It will be up to each club to plan according to their own needs, and communicate that to the coach. San Francisco will have classes for kids for ½ a day and also adults can train in the evening. Bakersfield will be using the coach during Udaleku. The time spent at each club doesn't have to be a whole week.

#### **World Pilota Council -- Pala Tournament in Venezuela 2012:**

The World Pilota Council (WPC) hosted a pala tournament in Caracas, Venezuela at the end of November. Michelle Friebel (Kern County Basque Club) received a personal invitation by the WPC to play and represented N.A.B.O. at the tournament.

Bob Echeverria asked if there would be handball players at the convention. Elko will be able to host but can't host if there is an empty court. The condition of the court isn't very good. They are looking into the cost of grinding and resurfacing, but not if players won't be coming. The general rule in the past was you play on the court you have without complaint. The president will have Evelyne Etcharren organize the games for the convention.

Jesse Kvarna from San Francisco was selected to accompany the United States team in Pau. He went as a replacement player but he got a lot of experience and was able to see a tournament played on a different level.

We have not paid dues to the United States Federation of Pilota for a while. We were paying but then realized that we were the only ones doing so. We didn't know why we were doing so for no benefit. N.A.B.O. is no longer a member of the United States Federation of Pilota (USFP). Individuals may be members and the USFP is the door to the Mundials. United States players pay their own way.



**Udaleku:** (Kate Camino & Valerie Arrechea)

### **Udaleku 2013**

Joey Iturrirra and Teresa Echeverria reported that Udaleku will be held in Bakersfield from June 16 – 28<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be available on-line March 1<sup>st</sup> at [nabasque.org](http://nabasque.org). The cost per participant will be \$350. There will be approximately 45 spots available to those outside of Bakersfield on a first come first serve basis. Drop off will be Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Pick-up will be Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. The final performance will be after the dinner on Friday night. In addition to teachers from the US, there will be three teachers from Euskal Herria: Irati del Rio (Txistu), Kristobal Zelaieta (Dance), and a pilota instructor sent by the World Pilota Council. For any additional information contact Maria Toretta – [toretta@bak.rr.com](mailto:toretta@bak.rr.com) or Teresa Echeverria – [turco8911@hotmail.com](mailto:turco8911@hotmail.com)

Benan Oregi mentioned there are people in the Basque Country that call the office to find out if their children can come to participate. From year to year the limit of the group changes. The president reminded everyone that kids have to belong to a N.A.B.O. club. If they are not members then they are not allowed in. Everyone applies online. The number of participants is dependent on local housing.

Cindy Schaffeld feels it is important to provide a time that applications are available. Everyone needs to know what time it opens so everyone has the same chance to enroll. The president reminded the delegates that clubs need to let their membership know registration will open Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (PST). Dues must be paid in full when your child is registered. For those clubs that pay for participants let the Udaleku chairs know before registration.

Grace Mainvil reminded the delegates that families that need financial aid should send their requests to the treasurer at [treasurer@nabasque.org](mailto:treasurer@nabasque.org) or 705 Nicklaus Lane, Eagle, ID 83616. The deadline for the Aita Tillous Memorial fund scholarship applications will be Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> so the recipients can be chosen prior to the March 1<sup>st</sup> camp registration deadline.

John Ysursa asked who did the logo for Udaleku 2013. Pierre Igoa is the artist. John explained the significance of the design.

### **Udaleku 2014:**

Udaleku 2014 moves back to the Reno - Elko - Salt Lake City region. We will be approaching those clubs shortly to see who would like to host the camp. We hope to have an answer by the meeting in Elko.

Morning Break

**Beti Gazte:** (Kristiane Bizkarra, excused)

No report at this time. Kristiane was not able to make it but they are working on youth activities for Elko.

The president asked for a moment of silence for Jamie Brown, an active youth member of Los Banos, who passed away in December.

**Mus:** (Pierre Etcharren)

N.A.B.O. Mus 2013: The 2013 N.A.B.O. mus finals will be held on Saturday, June 8th at the Centro Basco in Chino, CA. Club dues and Mus dues must be paid before the tournament for teams to be eligible to play. Please submit the names of your mus teams directly to [etcharren@msn.com](mailto:etcharren@msn.com). Same rules and same dues as last year.

If there are people interested in playing mus on the computer, please check out: [www.ludoteka.com](http://www.ludoteka.com) or for the iphone: usumus

Junior Mus 2013: The Junior Mus Tournament will take place in Elko, Nevada on Friday, July 5th in conjunction with the N.A.B.O. Convention and Elko festival. Please send the names of your teams to [ginaespinal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ginaespinal@sbcglobal.net) no later than June 15th.

**International Mus 2013:**

Pierre Etcharren thanked Vancouver for organizing the 2012 International Mus Tournament. What a great job they did. Last year there were 30 people from the United States that accompanied the mus players. If you are interested in being a mus groupie contact Pierre so that Mayte Ocafrain can organize a tour after the week in Chile leading to Argentina. Give him names and they'll try to organize something.

The International Mus Tournament will take place from October 26th - November 2nd in Puerto Varas, Chile. It is 1,000 km south of Santiago. Those interested in accompanying the tournament should contact Pierre Etcharren for further details.

**Future International Mus Dates:**

2014 Mexico, 2015 Uruguay, 2016 Euskadi 2017 in USA – ???

We are looking for a place to host the International Mus Tournament in the United States. We have the funds to do it and need a place to host 100 people or so, outings, meals and activities. Maybe Las Vegas?

**Music and Dance** (Lisa Corcostegi and Caroline Chirramberro)

The Music and Dance committee wants to know what dancers and musicians need so they can provide help in those areas.

Dance: A conference call meeting will be scheduled in March or April to discuss issues such as potential dance workshops and the performance at the N.A.B.O. convention in July.

Music: We are in communication with Eneko Espino (our Udaleku Txistu teacher) regarding a potential project of his by which txisulariak could learn how to play or practice online. If this project works well, we would like to expand it to include txirula as well.

100 kids are taught how to play the txistu every year at Udaleku in the hopes of getting a handful of txistularis. There are very few places with a txistu banda – There is interest in doing something where we can get all together online to share music, voices, and possibly practice online. It would be a good step forward to make a more viable txistu community in the United States. Would there be interest to expand to xirula? No one has ever been trained in xirula in the United States. If on-line instruction works for txistu, we could approach Xiberua to do the same thing.

Benan Oregi reported that Eneko had submitted a proposal but they were waiting for the new director and in a few weeks after this trip and after Asier catches up we will let him know about Txistuka. During the World Congress 2011 – it was decided that the Gaztemundu program for 2013 would be focused on music. As it was for Euskera last year it will be for musicians this year. Eneko and his academy will probably be in charge of the program. It has not yet been decided what type of musicians. Gaztemundu will be in September 2013. The call for applications could be in April. They will let us know. There are hundreds of dancers but very few musicians. The United States has more than many places.

Izaskun Kortazar asked about age limits. Benan Oregi explained Gaztemundu means Gazte-mundu - the world of youth. The program was created with the age limit from 18-30 years old, but as they have been organizing special topics like euskara and dance they are targeting instructors or individuals involved in those areas, not targeting people of a certain age. When we do that, when we do a specific program the age isn't as important.

There is some interest in reprinting the songbook, Hi-Kantari. Per Grace Mainvil there are 32 left. Patty Miller provided pricing for reprinting– Lithograph comes to \$.98 for 500 - \$.83 per book for 1,000 and goes down from there. Shipping isn't included so Patty will be in charge of getting them to folks outside of Boise. They will be available for sale in July in Elko. Izaskun Kortazar would use 400 of

them for Basque students. It is also possible to access the songbook on the N.A.B.O. website. Valerie will provide a link online to order books. The purchase price remains \$1.00/book.

- Martin Goicoechea moved to print 1,000 – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cindy Schaffeld. Passed unanimously.

### **Txerri Sukalde Txapeldun** (Gratien Etchebehere, excused)

Gratien Etchebehere is unable to make the meeting because he is in Yuba City at a chorizo contest!

The 3rd Annual Txerri Txapeldun will take place in Elko, NV on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Basque house. Like last year, there will be three categories: tripota / morcilla, lukainka (no red pepper), chorizo (with red pepper). There will be a Paella cook off at the same time. It is possible to view the fireworks from the Basque house in the evening.

Every year we have more contestants, and we encourage both clubs and individuals to participate this year. We request that participants bring about 3 lbs of their sausage with them. The golden rule: IT MUST BE HOMEMADE. Go pig or go home!

John Ysursa asked for feedback from the delegates about the name. Txerriki should be used, it means all things pork, that will be the new name.

### **Kantari Eguna** (Noel Goyhenetche, excused)

Becky Sarratea-Murphy and Noel Arraiz reported that Kantari Eguna will take place on August 11<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Gardnerville Picnic. The hall where Kantari Eguna is held in Gardnerville has improved the sound system. More information will be distributed as we approach the festival, but all singers are encouraged to participate.

### **Education** (John Ysursa)

One of our newest N.A.B.O. committees is that of education, to concentrate shared efforts to promote various educational features to benefit our member organizations: "Celebrate + EDUCATE = Perpetuate!" At present we are moving forward along two fronts:

1. Open invitation for volunteers. Several people have responded to an initial request, and the invitation remains open. If you think you'd be willing to throw in as part of a collaborative team to help with some educational initiatives then please let John know. The work would entail periodic email chains, and a teleconference or two a year. However much you could provide would be appreciated. Mantra: less is more – concentrate on one element a year. Will try

to develop some material for members to share with the youth in your communities.

2. “BasqUe” promotion of Basque Studies programs. We lose many Basque youth when they move away from their Basque communities at this age, and one way to provide outreach can be via the existing Basque Studies programs at various universities. The aim is to enlist our member organizations in an effort to consider a university that has a Basque Studies component. And some of the schools are developing online or remote learning opportunities providing even greater access. Step 1 in this potential project is to have a consensus to move forward on N.A.B.O.’s side, step 2 would be to enlist the collaboration of these various universities with existing Basque Studies programs and classes: The Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno, Basque Studies at California State University, Bakersfield, Basque Studies at Boise State, Basque Studies at U.C. Santa Barbara, Basque Studies at Stanford University, Basque Studies at City University of New York, and Basque Studies at University of Chicago.

Find out if clubs are interested in this. You use it if you want it – like songbooks. You might suggest Basque studies when meeting folks on the road to University.

Juliet Campos asked if there is a Basque Chair in Santa Barbara. John reported there is.

Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao informed the delegates that the University of the Basque Country together with Asmoz also offers full scholarships to do Post-Graduate Studies for Diaspora members. The call for applications is in July, if approved you get the whole thing for free. All instruction is in Basque and Spanish, not English so it is necessary to be literate in those languages.

Asier Vallejo reported that at one of his meetings he is planning with Etxepare at Aizpea Goienaga. In the new government there is a new department - Education/Linguistic Policy/Culture. The Etxepare Institute is under culture and so they could also publish their information on our website.

**Facilitator’s Report:** (Kate Camino)

Kate Camino thanked everyone for giving her this opportunity. She has enlisted the help of Lisa Corcostegi on the website and technical aspects of the job. Kate expressed her wonder at all that John Ysursa has done in the last seven years when he served as Facilitator.

**Basque Government Grants**

Basque Government grants are due February 28<sup>th</sup>. Please submit committee budget numbers as soon as possible.

## **Cultural tours**

N.A.B.O. has been approached by two groups to visit the United States. Jojo Bordagaray and Pilpil. You can see their video on Youtube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ab4-Fti46IM> John Ysursa had been in touch with them about performing at Kantari Eguna, but that wasn't able to come together. They are only available in the fall. Please contact Kate at [info@nabasque.org](mailto:info@nabasque.org) if your club is interested in having them perform.

Kalakan is also interested in a fall tour. Many of the delegates were able to see them perform in Montreal. They would be interested in ending in New York for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. Again please contact Kate if your clubs would be interested in hosting Kalakan for a performance. You can view a Kalakan video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GD-6t-qxw6k>

Astero has a new look. We now have a way of checking how many people actually open the email and actually click on the link. Please let people know about Astero. Please bring feedback for the next meeting about whether there is still interest in Astero or should it be less frequent?

Kate and Lisa Corcostegi have been working on a new look for the N.A.B.O. website. If you any suggestions please let Kate or Lisa know.

## **Old Business**

### **Club Status**

The Society of Basque Studies in America no longer exists; they have been disbanded as of January 1, 2013.

Miami is still an active club but sold their clubhouse causing some confusion.

Mary Gaztambide enquired whether a request had been received from Louisiana to become a member of N.A.B.O. They had sent an email stating that they would be joining N.A.B.O. sometime this year. No formal request has been received.

### **New York**

Noemi Gonzalo – Bilbao gave an update on the events planned for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Euskal Etxea of New York and the fall N.A.B.O. meeting over the four-day weekend of October 11-14, 2013.

Here is a tentative summary of activities:

Friday night - kick-off at the Basque clubhouse in Brooklyn.

Saturday – N.A.B.O. meeting at clubhouse and meal for delegates.

Sunday – Euskara teachers meeting in Manhattan at the office of the Delegation.  
Sunday night dinner/gala for Centennial Celebration – They are hoping to get some funding, but people would need to pay to attend.

Monday parade – They are not sure of their place in the parade. It depends on how the parade participants are lined up. If it is alphabetical they will be near the front or toward the end if they are listed on the year they joined the parade. Applications for the parade will not be accepted until April 1<sup>st</sup>.

They are trying to set up a mass on one of the days. The Cathedral is already booked on Sunday. They had actually asked for the day before but that would depend on security because so many authorities attend the next day. Bishop Iriondo of the Bronx has been contacted for help.

Grace Mainvil asked if the Euskal Etxea of New York would print out hotels that are conveniently located. They have been in communication with the president, Valerie Arrechea, in regards to lodging and transportation. There has also been discussion on a way to facilitate everyone to attend once there. If delegates are staying at the same hotel then maybe N.A.B.O. could rent a bus to transport folks to the meeting, etc. but to get to Brooklyn on the subway it is about an hour. Information will be sent out as soon as plans are finalized.

Noemi asked those planning to attend to please let her know arrival dates, length of stay in New York, and which events people will be attending. The president echoed Noemi and asked if you are putting a group together, talk to Noemi today so they can choose appropriate venues for the dinner and other events.

Benan Oregi indicated the University of the Basque Country and the Basque Studies Consortium are going to set up a seminar on Basque immigration at Columbia University that will be led by Jose Moya. They are planning on doing it on Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Asier Vallejo reported it is too early to tell the Basque Governments commitment, but they will try to get as high a ranking official there as possible.

Joseba Etxarri urged everyone to attend the Euskal Etxea New York centennial. It is not just a celebration for New York, he feels that this is bigger than just the Basque Club in New York, but also celebrates Basques in the United States. He urged everyone to publicize the event so that folks in the United States know about the event. We can use this as a media opportunity to introduce Basques to the rest of the US. We can campaign to make ourselves known in front of the American people. He suggested creating a commission including John Garamendi from California, Dave Bieter from Idaho, the mayor of New York – we should try! This may be our opportunity to get in front of the media – involve the Americans

in the celebration. Joseba met with Noemi a year ago. He thinks we aren't doing all that we can to not miss out on this unique opportunity.

Asier Vallejo was talking to Marian Elorza, his boss, the new Foreign Affairs Secretary General. She said it would be a great idea so he and Benan Oregi are going from Salt Lake City to Reno, then Boise, then to New York, to meet with Noemi and the rest of the team. Looking at creating a commission in government to address this topic, including the tourism office. Asier added the Basque delegation had not yet appointed a new delegate to the United States and they are currently interviewing for this position.

Joseba thinks everyone should work together with his or her club, local government, foru aldundias (provincial governments) etc.

Juliet Campos suggested N.A.B.O. get feedback from clubs, especially if New York would like to have the klika, dancers, etc. to see who may be interested to go. Perhaps we could potentially get better rates if we had larger numbers. Maybe investigate packages etc. as a larger group. Send out monthly reminders to clubs to encourage their participation.

The president encouraged clubs that want to put together a group to let New York know so they can help coordinate it. New York had invited the Klikas last year and before the fall meeting had extended an invitation to dance groups, need to see if that is still the case.

Matthew Etchepare said the klika was invited and as leader of the San Francisco klika they need dates and times. It would be really important for New York to get that information to them as soon as possible. Are we marching in the parade? They need to practice, especially if it is a combination group with klika members from clubs all over. Noemi said they would have an answer from the Columbus Day Parade organizers in early summer. It is necessary to wait for the application approval process. They will relay all information as soon as it is in hand.

Benan Oregi added that three years ago we had the exhibit on Ellis Island and gathered a lot of people from the West to visit that exhibit. We know how to do it now and the fact that the Euskal Etxea New York has had recent elections and has a new board will help to activate the whole thing. They have also been waiting for new Basque Government to be confirmed to move forward. What I have seen in this process we started asking New York about plans a long time ago but they were hesitant to commit since they weren't feeling safe but I feel that it will take off from now on. Noemi had done a lot of work planning trying to find venues but her work was for naught since reservations weren't made in time.



Next Friday they will also be celebrating St. Ageda and will hold a Korrika in March or April, and also a Carnival celebration.

### **Insurance Limits:**

We have looked into raising the personal injury limit on insurance. We had thought it was at \$10,000. This was brought up when Jexux Larea got hurt at Udaleku in Boise. It turns out our personal injury limit is \$1,000,000. It depends on how you state it. It is per event since we don't have employees. It falls under general liability. The \$10,000 was based on work place liability, has to do with sexual harassment. The president assured the delegates we have adequate coverage. Any of our activities will fall under this general liability.

Bob Echeverria inquired who is our insurance carrier. Grace Mainvil reported it is with Wells Fargo Insurance. Our agent, with ABD Insurance, is in Elko. The total amount for general liability is \$395 per year and that was in your treasurer's report at the last convention meeting in July. It was paid in June. N.A.B.O. is also covered for certified acts of terrorism; we pay \$1.00 for that.

Izaskun Kortazar asked where is the policy information so that it can be easily accessed when needed. The president reminded the delegates that they should call the treasurer, Grace Mainvil, for that information because N.A.B.O. needs to be alerted to any claims being made. Patty Miller recommended that the information be available on-hand when something is going on, to the chairperson if hosting an event. The president concurred it was a good idea. The information will be provided to Bakersfield for the next Udaleku.

The president informed the delegates no one can be at Udaleku without their own insurance so the first step would be to use individuals insurance information in the case of an accident. The participants' insurance information is on the application. We will need to make sure we have the instructors' insurance information as well, in particular those from the Basque Country.

### **New Business**

#### **Euskalkultura.com**

Presentation by Joseba Etxarri

There is a daily bulletin and website that includes news about Basques in the Diaspora. We work hard putting this out to inform activities in Basque communities around the world. The daily bulletin goes out in Basque and Spanish and the English version goes out once a week.

He knows the United States the best but doesn't get as much information from our clubs. Please encourage clubs to share activities with Joseba at [info@euskalkultura.com](mailto:info@euskalkultura.com) including forwarding newsletters to him.

## **Montreal Euskal Etxea**

Presentation by Marie Pouquie of the Montreal Euskal Etxea.

Marie teaches Basque in Montreal. Marie reported on three current projects.

8 Herrialdeak Zuzenean is a radio show from Gure Irratia, Iparralde. It airs the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month from 8:30 – 9:30 pm. You can call in and participate in the radio show. [www.zortzprobintziak.com](http://www.zortzprobintziak.com)

There is potential for a show on N.A.B.O.'s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, possibly in June.

Zortzi, a living art based on Ihauterriak, is a wig project related to Carnival in March.

Mintzaspeak, a project to create pen pals between the Diaspora and the Basque Country for language exchanges. You could choose someone in a particular dialect to learn more that way. Could work via email or Skype.

Cindy Schaffeld asked if that power point presentation could be part of the minutes? The president said yes, it will be available on-line.

## **Announcements:**

### **John Ysursa**

John spoke about Grace Mainvil's willingness to continue serve and adjust to new technology. He also thanked Asier Vallejo for his initiative in coming here after being in office only 2 weeks. John also thanked Mary Gaztambide and the Basque Club of Utah for having us and the wonderful welcome, hospitality, and food. John also thanked Kate Camino & Lisa Corcostegi for all of their efforts with new initiatives, the website, etc. He is looking forward to what is to come.

John thanked Valerie Arrechea for being an extraordinary president. She is doing a great job. He appreciates her involvement in New York and the oral history project.

Grace Mainvil informed the new delegates in case they were all unaware that we are a volunteer organization. The officers are reimbursed for travel expenses, but that is the only money that they get.

### **Colorado Basque club –**

Presentation by Mayi Petracek of the Colorado Euskal Etxea

Mayi gave a background on the club; the Matassa family founded it in 2003. They are located primarily in the Denver area but spread out geographically. It is an urban club; there are not a lot of old timers. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generation Basques are trying to reengage Basques in Colorado. It has about 35 members. They are a small club but they try to have many activities; they have classes for kids and adults and they hold a pintxo competition. They need to reach out to

communities to let folks know what Basque is about. They have book club and talk about one book a year, last year they read *Gernika*. This year they will read *Back to Bizkaia*. Some of their other activities include: a summer picnic in August, Akelarre (a Halloween gathering – to tap into Basque mythology), and a holiday party with Olentzero.

Patty Miller asked if their events were well attended since they are so spread out. Mayi reported their last picnic had 60 people attend. They don't have a local place to meet, usually in someone's home.

This year marks their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They will be using August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> to celebrate this event. They are hoping to do a picnic in the park with mass, performances, a dinner/dance, and a mus tournament.

Denver is a great area to visit. There are so many cool golf courses, and other points of interest. Mayi encouraged the delegates to plan a vacation around the picnic in August. They are looking for performers. They would like to extend an invitation to klikas and dance groups. They would be willing to do it on a Saturday to facilitate travel. They can provide accommodation for dancers. Unfortunately they don't have a lot of money so can't provide travel costs. They will also need musicians for the event. They are looking for cooks; they don't have folks that know how to cook in large quantities. They are also seeking monetary donations to make this possible.

Contact information is available on the website which is currently under construction, so please use Mayi's personal email - [mariepetracek@comcast.net](mailto:mariepetracek@comcast.net)

#### **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of N.A.B.O.**

The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated in Elko along with Elko's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At our last meeting we came up with some good ideas. We would like to put together a video or photomontage. Please send in photos of current and past groups, events, past N.A.B.O. conventions, or photos of your club the year you joined N.A.B.O. The deadline for submitting your photos or other memorabilia is June 1<sup>st</sup>. A song was written by Xavier Aburruzaga that has been proposed as our anniversary song to put as background for the slide show. The delegates agreed it would be fine to use the song by Xavier Aburruzaga. Please send items for the anniversary to the Secretary, Marisa Espinal at [secretary@nabasque.org](mailto:secretary@nabasque.org) if you would prefer to mail your items contact Marisa at the email above to make arrangements. If you have other ideas – please let us know.

#### **Bizi Emankorra – 2013**

The president reminded the delegates we already have Ana Aguirre from 2012 to be awarded in the Bizi Emankorra in New York in October 2013.

Clubs were asked to nominate someone on-line. We received one application for Bizi Emankorra 2013. The University of Nevada Reno nominated John Ysursa. John asked to table the nomination for a later date; he respectfully declines the nomination.

The president opened the floor to other nominations.

Juliet Campos said the Fresno Basque Club would have a meeting next week so although it had not been cleared at their meeting she would like to nominate Father Mike Lastiri; he has gone everywhere to say mass at Basque events. She feels he is very sincere in his efforts to serve the Basque community. The president suggested saving Father Lastiri for next year so that it can be awarded to him in Bakersfield to facilitate his family attending the presentation for 2014. They can vote for him this year and present next year.

Pierre Etcharren suggested it would be nice for someone from Elko to receive it this year. The president reviewed past Bizi Emankorra recipients.

- Pierre Etcharren motioned to nominate Bob Goicoechea, the lawyer of record for N.A.B.O. and Jim Ithurralde, the second N.A.B.O. president. Seconded by Bob Echeverria. Passed unanimously.
- Mayi Petracek motioned to accept nominations for Bob Goicoechea and Jim Ithurralde as Bizi Emankorra recipients for 2013. 2<sup>nd</sup>ed by Tony Campos. Passed unanimously.

### **Questions or Announcements.**

The president asked if there were any questions about the financial reports?

Grace Mainvil brought up that Izaskun Kortazar has asked about the Euskara balance many times. Grace said that that is the true number. Izaskun thought there should be less money in the accounts. Martin Goicoechea pointed out one of the grants is the last payment of 2011- 2012 came in December and the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2012-13 came in November at \$8,000 each. Then \$14,000 came for her salary and so all came in all at once. She was prepaid this time instead of having to wait for payment.

Asier Vallejo informed the delegates if they need anything from the Basque Government (Eusko Jauriaritza) please let them know. The Etxepare Institute created a brochure in Basque, Spanish and English with basic Basque words and phrases. If you would like more copies Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao and the New York Delegation can send them. The president reminded everyone that each club got one at the first meeting after the World Congress. They are really good for kids.

The president thanked everyone for coming. She stated the majority of work is done outside of these meetings. All the time and energy put in at home at your

own clubs. Thank you for coming here to share what you do. She thanked Grace Mainvil for all of her work, especially putting up with hounding about QuickBooks. She really appreciates Grace's time and being receptive to taking this step. She also thanked Mary Gaztambide for all her work. She thanked John Ysursa too for his work as facilitator. She thanked Lisa Corcostegi and Kate Camino for the work that they have just started.

Thank you to Asier Vallejo, Benan Oregi, and Joseba Itxarri for coming as well. She really appreciates that we were their first stop. We look forward to having a good relationship with the new Basque Government and look forward to continuing our relationship with this office.

Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao requested that clubs please respond to the delegations request for updates to club information; contacts, addresses, etc.

The president also requested the delegates to update their club contact information for N.A.B.O. as well. Ten clubs have done so; everyone else needs to do so. The link is also on the front page of the website if you lost the email.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

**Future Meeting Schedule:**

2013

Summer Convention meeting: Friday, 7/5/13. Elko Festival: July 4 - 7,  
Elko 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary + 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of N.A.B.O.  
Fall: New York, October 12<sup>th</sup>

2014

Winter: San Francisco, February 15<sup>th</sup>  
Summer Convention: Bakersfield, CA  
Fall: Rocklin, October

2015

Winter: Salt Lake City, usually February  
Summer Convention: Boise, ID in conjunction with Jaialdi  
Fall:

**Future Convention Dates:**

2013: Elko, NV

2014: Bakersfield, CA

2015: Boise, ID in conjunction with Jaialdi

2016:

2017: Chino, CA

Respectfully submitted by Kate Camino, N.A.B.O. Facilitator and Marisa Espinal,  
N.A.B.O. Secretary.