

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2015
Denver, Colorado

The President called the meeting to order at 8:15 am.

Welcome by Mayi Petracek, the President of the Colorado Basque Club. She welcomed the N.A.B.O. delegates and she informed them about the weekend's events. The Colorado Basque Club provided a shuttle to and from the airport.

Introductions and Roll Call

Officers

President – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea
Vice-President – Mary Gaztambide, excused
Treasurer – Mayi Petracek
Secretary – Marisa Espinal
Facilitator – Kate Camino
Webmaster – Lisa Corcostegui
Euskara Coordinator – Itxaso Cayero, & Aitor Inarra, excused

Committee Chairperson

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, excused
Education – John Ysursa, excused
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea, excused
Udaleku – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea, Kate Camino
Mus – Pierre Etcharren, excused
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre
Music/Dance – Caroline Chiramberro, excused
Pilota – Teresa Iparraguirre, excused
History – Patty Miller, excused & Steve Bass, excused
Txerriki – Gratien Etchebehere, excused
Kantari Eguna – Noel Goyhenetche, excused & Becky Sarratea-Murphy

Club Delegates

Anaitasuna Basque Club (SF)	Gina Espinal Aguerre Marisa Espinal
Basque Educational Organization (BEO)	Marisa Espinal + proxy
Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Cindy Schaffeld + proxy
Basque Club of Utah	Steve Achabal (proxy)
Big Horn Basque Club (Buffalo)	Alberta Escoz Jean Escoz
Boise Euzkaldunak, Inc.	Steve Achabal Joe Lasuen
Center for Basque Studies, Reno	Kate Camino + proxy
Cennarusa Foundation	Cindy Schaffeld (proxies)

Colorado Euskal Etxea
Elko Euskaldunak
Euskal Lagunak-Mountain Home B. C.
Fresno Basque Club
Los Banos
Marin Sonoma Basque Club
Mendiko Euskalduna (Gardnerville)

Oinkari Dancers

Ontario Basque Club

Reno Basque Club

San Francisco Basque Club
proxy
San Francisco Basque Cultural Center
Santa Rosa Basque Club
Southern California Basque Club
Susanville Basque Club
Washington D.C. Euskal Etxea

Proxies for Quorum only

New Mexico
New York

Mayi Petracek
Anita Anacabe Francoia +proxy
Goisalde Jausoro + proxy
Gina Espinal Aguerre (proxy)
Matthew Etchepare (proxies)
Matthew Etchepare (proxies)
Becky Sarratea-Murphy
Noel Arraiz
Elise Overgaard
Johnny Boyd
Lisa Corcostegui
Francisco Yraguen
Enrike Corcostegui
Lorenzo Trimble
Jean Pierre Elissetche +

Matthew Etchepare + proxy
Annie Gavica
Gina Espinal Aguerre (proxies)
Gina Espinal Aguerre (proxies)
Nagore Goitiandia + proxy

Blas Uberuaga
Iban Ubarrentxena

Guests

Manny Villanueva, Reno
Ricardo Yanci, Boise
Christine Carnegie, Denver
Ben Elissetche, Denver
Sabrina Lynn Motley, Smithsonian

On-line Guests

New England Basque Club

Ander Caballero

Approval of the July 2015 Minutes

Marisa Espinal submitted the July 2015 minutes. Hosting club for Fall meeting 2019 and the spelling of Bilbao were corrected.

- Joe Lasuen motioned to accept the July meeting minutes as corrected. Jean Pierre Elissetche seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Mayi Petracek)

Delegates were given the 2015 balance sheet and the profit/loss statements to review. The statements reflect activity through September 30th only. Mayi has

switched to online banking for recurring payments. All other reimbursements or payments will require a two-signature check. Four Mus CD's reached maturity and were transferred to the general Mus account because NABO will be hosting the International Mus Tournament in 2017. Please see the Facilitator's packet for full details. There was some discussion of setting up PayPal accounts for calendar, watch, and other items for sale. Lisa Corcostegui and Mayi Petracek will work on this. There were no questions asked by the delegates. Contact or send receipts for reimbursement to the new treasurer, Marie Petracek, at 11971 South Allerton Circle, Parker, CO 80138

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

Euskara: (Martin Goicoechea, excused, Aitor Inarra, excused, & Itxaso Cayero) Itxaso Cayero reported on the Euskara Munduan program and the euskal etxeak that have teachers offering classes. Rocklin has a class with the instructor in the Basque Country via Skype. She also reported on the Euskara booth at Jaialdi. They were able to sign up many people for BOGA during Jaialdi.

Euskara Eguna, the International Day of Euskara is celebrated on December 3rd. Each Euskal Etxea is encouraged to celebrate. The date is tied to St. Francis Xavier and the date the Basque Dictionary was published. Please contact Itxaso Cayero at euskara@nabasque.org or andertxu@hotmail.com or usa@ej-gv.es the Basque Delegation in New York for ideas and to let them know your plans for celebration.

There was an update on the eliburutegia of Basque publications. It is not quite up and running, but you will soon be able to get a password from your local euskal etxea. You can view the website at: <http://www.liburklik.euskadi.net/prestamo.eus/>

Ander Caballero reported the Basque Film "Loreak" would be the first film in the Basque language submitted by Spain to the Oscars.

Calendars: (Mary Lou Urrutia, excused)

The 2016 calendars are available. There was discussion about expanding the Calendar Committee to include a representative from each state or region to help gather dates, and pictures. Cindy Schaffeld volunteered the Basque Museum in Boise to be responsible for Idaho clubs. A google doc will be created to allow people to upload photos for submission to the calendar. Dates need to be submitted by May 1st so ideally the calendars are ready for distribution by August. If your club still has a communicator or someone responsible for the dates, please have that person email Lisa Corcostegui at webmaster@nabasque.org for access to the NABO website calendar.

Please contact Mary Lou for calendars at her new email: calendar@nabasque.org or through Marylou@gracegroup.com

History (Pedro Oiarzabal, excused, Patty Miller, excused, Steve Bass, excused)
There was no report.

Memoria Bizia

Pedro Oiarzabal presented on the NABO Oral History Project at the World Congress.

Please contact Pedro Oiarzabal or Kate Camino if you are interested in volunteering on this project. They can connect you to those who are already actively interviewing so you can have a better sense of what is involved with conducting interviews at your club. All of the forms required are on the NABO website.

You can send the names of the contact for your club or the interviewees to info@nabasque.org or President@nabasque.org because N.A.B.O. is keeping a spreadsheet of names to be interviewed.

Discussion about reimbursing Pedro's expenses was tabled.

Pilota (Teresa Iparraguirre, excused)
Finals will be held in San Francisco in conjunction with their August Festival.

Udaleku: (Kate Camino & Valerie Arrechea)

Udaleku 2016

Udaleku 2016 will be in Salt Lake City, Utah from July 10 – 22, 2016. Online registration will go live at 6 p.m. (Pacific Time) on March 1st. The theme this year will be Guipuzkoa. They are planning to accept 60 out of town children. More information will be available at the next meeting.

- Steve Achabal motioned to keep the fees for Udaleku 2016 at \$375.
Seconded by Jean Pierre Elissetche. Unanimously approved.

Udaleku 2017

Chino will be hosting the 2017 Udaleku. Dates are not set yet, but it usually ends with the Chino or Southern California Picnic.

There was discussion about the registration process for Udaleku. The single online registration per family is working better. There is a question of fairness of who attends. There may be up to 10 kids who are unable to attend. The children placed on the waitlist are accepted into camp as others decline their spot due to other commitments. There has been a request by the Txoko Ono Homedale club

that each club be guaranteed 2 spots. Cindy Schaffeld suggested children who have attended two consecutive Udalekus be bumped down the list and priority be given to those who have never attended. Nagore Goitandia suggested two simultaneous camps. It would be difficult to arrange teachers and support staff at two separate camps. The feedback to a previous attempt to accommodate more children by having two one-week camps was negative. Another suggestion was to have a point system as in Gaztemundu. It was recommended that delegates strongly encourage their members to apply online so more accurate data can be collected about the true number of children on the waitlist.

- Lorenzo Trimble motioned to table discussion. Joe Lasuen 2nded. The motion did not carry.
- Steve Achabal motioned to keep the Udaleku registration process as is with a first come first serve basis. Jean Pierre Elissetche 2nded. Unanimously approved.

Mus: (Pierre Etcharren, excused)

The Iparreko Ibarra Club in Rocklin will host the NABO Mus Finals on June 11th in Lincoln, California.

Junior Mus (Gina Espinal)

Only teams who have played a local tournament are eligible for the Junior Mus Tournament. The winning team from Udaleku also plays. Some youth teams just showed up, but it is required to send notification of who will be representing your club. There was some discussion about an open competition rather than a tournament. The original intent was to encourage individual clubs to teach the children mus. The age limit is 13 – 17 years old, with some exceptions for 11 & 12 year olds.

Lorenzo Trimble volunteered to supervise a room of players if extra teams show up that are not eligible to play in the Junior Mus Tournament. The Junior Mus Tournament is usually held at the same time as the NABO meeting because the Convention and picnic are often a conflict if the players are also dancers.

International Mus 2015:

The tournament will be held in Mar de Plata, Argentina from October 30th through the first week of November. Representing the U.S.A. will be Chris Bonson and Maurice Negueloa. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Pierre Etcharren at mus@nabasque.org.

Future International Mus Dates:

The 2016 International Mus Tournament will be in Donostia, Euskadi, and the 2017 International Mus Tournament will be in the United States. Plans have not been finalized yet.

Music and Dance (Caroline Chiramberro, excused)

No report

Txerriki Sukalde Txapeldun (Gratien Etchebehere, excused)

The 2015 sausage contest was held in Gardnerville on August 8th in conjunction with Kantari Eguna.

Kantari Eguna (Noel Goyhenetche, excused, Becky Sarratea-Murphy)

Becky Sarratea-Murphy reported the 2015 Kantari Eguna was held in Gardnerville, NV on August 8th. There was a good turn out, including two groups from the Basque Country.

Kantari Eguna 2016 will be held in Rocklin, CA in October along with the fall NABO meeting and the Iparreko Ibarra picnic.

Education (John Ysursa, excused)

Celebrate + Educate = Perpetuate Please see Facilitator's packet for report.

Please contact education@nabasque.org and NABO will be able to help you with resources for the educational topic that your club is interested in showcasing.

Facilitator's Report: (Kate Camino)

Please submit photos and event to Lisa Corcostegui to keep the website updated. Photos are encouraged when justifying Basque Government Grants; it helps if photos are readily available.

Break 9:30 – 9:45 a.m.

Smithsonian Folklife Festival 2016

The Basque culture will be highlighted at the 2016 Smithsonian Folk-life Festival 6/30 – 7/10. The delegates were shown a video of the Festival to have a better sense of the scope of the project. Two of the themes that came up are innovation and tradition.

Sabrina Lynn Motley, spoke briefly about the project. There can be up to one million visitors during the Festival. The Folklife Festival has been highlighting diverse cultures since 1967. The two-week festival is open to the public at no charge. It always occurs over the 4th of July. It is an incredible opportunity to educate the World about the Basques. They would like a large Diaspora presence at the Festival. There will be two more people working with the Diaspora, Christina Diaz Carrera and Mary Lynn.

The Festival will include food, dance, music, culture and narrative stages where there are opportunities for dialogue. There will be formal concerts and more informal entertainment. They will be asking for cultural liaisons to answer questions or translate for visitors to the National Mall. There will be a fronton built on the Mall, cheese making, Bertsolaris, a cider house, and a sheepherding camp. Some of the themes include: sales – jewelry and smaller items easy to carry and pack sell well. Food will be a big part of the Festival, but there is no

Basque restaurant in DC. There would need to be up to 5000 meals. A caterer familiar with local health codes working with a Basque chef to maintain authenticity and quality would be ideal. They will need help from the Diaspora to have food/cooking demonstrations. They are looking for multi-taskers, people who can dance, sing, cook and explain the process and traditions while performing. There will be an application process.

The children's magazine, *FACES* will showcase the Basques as well.

The delegates brain stormed ideas: storytellers, videos or pictures from people who would not be able to attend during the Festival, *memoria bizia*, rural sports – *soka tira* (tug of war), weight lifting, whaling ships, *traineras*, rowing competition, making handballs, making *espadrilles*, tree-carving, strolling singers, *Hi-Kantari* (the NABO songbook), *gigantes*, sheep trailing, songbooks, *San Fermin* - a running of the bulls, red scarves with the Festival logo, boarding house kitchen to showcase women's roles, a table with Basque linens, men at the bar singing, people playing *mus*, simple Basque dances to teach the crowd, photo booth, sculptures, kid's corner – *mini-udaleku* kids could make their own hats, *klika*, *Euskara* lessons, Basque Diaspora from other countries, educational presentations, *mus* (Basque card game), processions – *tamboradas* (drums), tree carving, wine, *kalimotxo* (red wine & coca cola drink), and food – *tripa*, *chorizo* (cooked sausage), *txistorra* (dry sausage), *tallos* (Basque tortilla/pupusa/cornbread), *morcilla* (blood sausage), *lomo con pimientos piquillos* (pork loin with red piquillo peppers), *bacalao* (salted codfish), *croquetas*, lamb stew, beans, *paella*, *piperade* (red pepper, onion, & tomatoe sauce), *tortillas* (Basque omelets with potato and onion), *churros y chocolate*, cheese and *membrillo* (quince), and *gateau Basque* (cake).

Individuals and groups would be expected to pay their own way. There may be a deal on hotels, and some subsidies available. There will be some shuttles. People would be expected to stay for 3 days, not necessarily the whole two weeks. Performers would be scheduled for different 3-day periods. They will need to know by March for hotel reservations. Ideally a draft of the schedule from the Smithsonian will be available by January or February so people can plan accordingly.

Bizkaian Government Foreign Affairs Director pointed out the Smithsonian Project is not solely the prevue of the Bizkaian Government. Although they will take the lead this is a collaboration of the Basque Government and the Basque Diaspora. A brief history was given of the project and *Argia Beristain* and *Mark Beiter's* role in bringing this great project to fruition. An organizational chart was presented of who is responsible for different aspects of the project such as, fundraising, curatorial, and political.

There were some questions by the delegates about NABO's role in fundraising and curating. NABO's role will be advisory in suggesting themes to showcase

and encouraging groups or individuals in the application process. According to the president NABO's role will be advisory. Ander Caballero informed the delegates that the committee would be determining the level of involvement.

Lunch Break 12:00 – 1:10

Old Business

Bertsolaris

The United States Bertsolaris: Martin Goicoechea, Johnny Curuchet, Jesus Goni, and Gratien Alfaro were invited to visit Bertsolari schools and to participate in other events by Pantxo Irigoyen and the Institute Cultural Basque in Biarritz. Martin Goicoechea and Johnny Curuchet attended the events held October 12 -17. The President acknowledged Franxoa Bidaurreta for the initial contact with Pantxo Irigoyen and helping to facilitate the contact between these parties. The delegates had voted on allocating \$4000.00 to cover travel costs. Since only \$2000 was used.

- Jean Pierre Elissetche motioned to offer a \$1000.00 stipend to defray from the traveling costs for Franxoa Bidaureta. 2nded by Gina Espinal. Unanimously approved.

California Historical Society

The president gave an update on the project. There will be a 3 prong exhibit, the website, physical exhibit, and history pin.

There was a website created by the Basque Government to showcase the information collected for the California Historical Society exhibit on the Basques in California. Benan Oregi will be in charge of the website. The domain name has been given to NABO. This is the same website that Steve Bass and Inaki Bizkarra have been working on. The onus of the project has been on Asun Garikano's shoulders. The information will be translated into Basque, Spanish, and English. Non-native English speakers have written much of the text for the exhibition. Asun could use some help proofreading the text to ensure the English is typical of American English speakers.

There was some discussion of the cost of creating and maintaining a website. The cost for the domain name is minimal. The cost of hiring someone to update the website would require fundraising in the future. The Basque Government suggested NABO include funding for the website when applying for Basque Government Grants. \$5000 was requested in the 2015 grants. Right now the focus is on Basques in California. Down the road we could add information about Basques in other states. There will be links to other historical information such as the Basque Museum in Boise.

- Frank Yraguen made a motion to approve NABO being named the owner of the website domain and to pay the nominal annual registration fee. 2nded by Joe Lasuen. Passed with majority approval. Two opposed.

World Congress

Each country sent 3 delegates. Delegates selected by the World Congress Committee were: Marisa Espinal, Annie Gavica, and Aitor Inarra, the NABO president was an invited guest.

Annie Gavica reported the World Congress was held the week of October 5th – 9th in Vitoria-Gasteiz. There was a field trip to Guernica and the Guggenheim in Bilbao, and the Basque Parliament in Vitoria-Gasteiz. The Congress meetings were held Wednesday the 7th – Friday the 9th. The leading authority on Diaspora, Kingsley Aikins, CEO of Diaspora Matters, who advises the Prime Minister in Dublin, was the keynote speaker on the 7th.

The theme of the World Congress was "Diasporazation": Role of women, the next generation in leadership, and new wave of immigrants. Annie commented that many of the countries with smaller clubs were very curious about what programs and activities the United States were implementing. Time ran out for round table discussions, there were many great conversations held during dinners and at the bar. The NABO Hi Kantari songbooks were a hit.

Some of the presentations included a recording by Xabier Irujo who was unable to attend, Inaki Galdos speaking on the history of the Oinati/Boise dancer exchange program which is celebrating it's 40th Anniversary, publications from Argentina, Euskara, eliburuak, mintzalaguna.eus

Lorea Palacios is the new representative on the Advisory Council for North America, which includes the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Start-Up Fund Committee (Steve Achabal)

Steve Achabal, Mary Kay Aucutt, Mayi Petracek, Valerie Arrechea, and Argia Beristain are on the committee. Steve had Bob Goicoechea, the NABO lawyer, review the CARL, Cultural Aide Revolving Loan, documents. These will be no interest loans. There is \$5000 seed money for this committee. Lisa Corcostegui and Steve will be working on getting the loan application and other paperwork up on the website. For now applications will be open year round. After the application has been received the applicant should be notified about their status within 30 days.

If you are interested in being on this committee or would like more information please contact the chairman, Steve Achabal, at loan@nabasque.org or steveachabal@netzero.com.

Basque Government Grants

If you have any questions about grants please contact Benan Oregi at Benan-Oregi@euskadi.eus or Andoni Martin at Andoni-Martin@euskadi.eus

New Business

Pantxo Aguerre called to alert NABO that an investigator working on a cold case from the 1980's and wanted information on a possible Basque young adult on the Wyoming-Utah border. An army jacket with the name Thomas was found with the body. Tony Oiarzabal was killed in Evaston. The information was in a past Astero. If anyone has any information please contact info@nabasque.org

Contracts for Renewal

Euskara and Facilitator/webmaster positions are up for renewal. All four, Itxaso Cayero, Aitor Inarra, Kate Camino, and Lisa Corcostegi have all agreed to continue for another year. These positions are based on funding by the Basque Government. However, the salaries are being paid throughout the year before the grant money has been received from the Basque Government. Expenses incurred, such as a laptop damaged during a NABO activity, should be submitted for reimbursement.

- Annie Gavica made a motion that next year this discussion be moved to the summer meeting. 2nded by Cindy Schaffeld. Unanimously approved.
- Joe Lasuen made a motion to renew all the current contracts. 2nded by Annie Gavica. Unanimously approved.

Upcoming Meetings

Gina Espinal Aguerre reported the Southern California Basque Club would host the NABO Convention and meeting in conjunction with their Picnic and 70th Anniversary. The meeting will be Saturday, July 2nd and Sunday, July 3rd is the Picnic. Hotel and other information will be available soon.

Lorenzo Trimble requested the Convention be held in Washington DC rather than Southern California now that the Smithsonian project is back on. There was some discussion about the miscommunications between NABO and the clubs interested in hosting the summer convention. It was quite a shock to the delegates to hear from the Blzkaian government in July that Basque culture would be showcased at the 2016 Smithsonian Folklife Festival after hearing from the Basque Government in February that the project was not moving forward.

There was a discussion on future meeting dates. Clubs have only to request hosting a meeting. They may contact other clubs to discuss hosting duties or to switch dates if there is a conflict. At one time there had been trouble booking the fall meeting and the Iparreko Ibarra Club in Rocklin had graciously offered to host the fall meeting in conjunction with their picnic and Kantari Eguna in October whenever the date was available.

Questions or Announcements:

- Annie Gavica motioned to adjourn the meeting. 2nded by Cindy Schaffeld. Unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Future Meeting Schedule:

2016

Winter: San Francisco, usually February
Summer Convention: Southern California 70th Anniversary,
July 2nd Meeting, July 3rd Picnic
Fall: Rocklin, October

2017

Winter: Salt Lake City, usually February
Summer Convention: Elko 100th Anniversary of the City of Elko? Buffalo?
Fall: Tentatively Denver or Montreal

2018

Winter: San Francisco, usually February
Summer Convention: Winnemucca, NV
Fall: Rocklin, usually October

2019

Winter: Salt Lake City, usually February
Summer Convention: Kern Co for their 75th Anniversary (Buffalo as backup)
Fall: Mountain Home, Idaho

2020

Winter: San Francisco, usually February
Summer Convention: New England, 10th Anniversary
Fall: Rocklin, usually October

Future Convention Dates:

2021: Buffalo, Wyoming, July
2022: San Francisco
2024: Kern County, 80th Anniversary

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