



Tri-annual Report to NABO Delegates

Winter Meeting
San Francisco
Feb. 13, 2010

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N.A.B.O. Facilitator



EUSKALTASUNAREN ERRONKA

“Basque
Continuity
Challenge”

The singular remarkable fact about the Basques is that they still exist.”
~Mark Kurlansky

“I hear nothing, I see nothing, I say nothing.”

In a real sense, Basques are “Europe’s oldest family.” They are the oldest indigenous inhabitants of this corner of western Europe; they were there when the Indo-European ancestors of the Spanish and French arrived. This people—always small in number and against the odds—found ways of keeping their traditions alive. But modern times have presented a new set of challenges of retaining a sense of “Basqueness”—the sense of being Basque.

The temptation is to not confront these challenges and hope for the best—that our traditions will continue to endure. But unlike our ancestors, being Basque today is far more of a choice than it was before, and today we are bombarded by a wide assortment of alternatives that call for our “time, treasure and talent.” This is a challenge that all of our organizations confront, and this is something that perhaps we can find together successful ways to keep “the family together.”



If a culture does not possess effective means of transmission from one generation to the next, then that culture is doomed to perish. Somehow, somehow, against the odds, our ancestors found a way to preserve “Basqueness” across thousands of years. Now it is our turn. We—those of us age 30 and above—cannot be the generation that breaks this long chain of continuity of one of the world’s oldest cultures. OLD & YOUNG WILL HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAINTAIN THE LINK!

1 IZAN ZIRALAKO, GARA, ETA GARALAKO IZANGO DIRA

“Because they were, we are, and because we are they will be.”

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FOCUS (ADVISORY) GROUPS

ISSUE: All the best ideas in the world remain just that, unless a group of people pick them up and make them happen. Taldeak translates as "teams" and the objective here is to create focus groups on various aspects of Basque culture that can in turn help to serve our various NABO members.

We are currently looking for volunteers for these focus groups	
	DANTZA & MUSIKA: Dance & Music: shared resources, workshops, etc.
	DIRUA (Finances): budgeting, B.G. grant requests, etc.
	EUSKARA, KANTAK & MUS Basque language promotion to learn & play
	GAZTEAK ("Youth"): Includes 9 & under, Udaleku, Gaztealde, exchanges, etc.
	JAKINARAZI ("To Make Known") Education, communication, news, websites, etc.
	KIROLAK ("Sports"): Pilota, Pala & other Basque sports



BASQUE GOVERNMENT UPDATE

euskaletxeak.net
the web of and for the basque clubs



HI KANTARI: Powerpoint for clubs

The powerpoint includes the original 63 songs of the song booklet *Hi Kantari* ("You're a Basque Singer") and now includes in many cases links to music and video karaoke where available all for the same purpose—to help get more people singing in Basque. Here each club can adjust the Powerpoint to their own needs.



KIDEAREN ZERBITZUAK: NABO Member Services

What else should we include here? What do you want/need?

[N.A.B.O. Bulletin Board](#)

NABO contacts

[Media Kit](#)

[Joining NABO](#)

[Membership fees](#)

[Officers/Chairpersons](#)

[Election of Officers](#)

[NABO members: old & new](#)

Email: info@nabasque.org

DELEGATES:

[NABO Elections](#)

[Delegates Handbook](#)

[Meetings & minutes](#)

[Focus \(Advisory\) Groups](#)

[Basque Continuity Challenge](#)

[Facilitator-Sustatzailea](#)

[Bizi Emankorra](#)

[Regions](#)

[Starting | growing a club](#)

[Public Relations](#)

COMMUNICATION:

[Calendar](#) [Astero](#) [Bulletin Board](#)

[GoToMeeting teleconferences](#)

[Facilitator Reports](#)

[Focus \(Advisory\) Groups](#)

MUSIC, SONG & DANCE

[Dance music for groups](#)

[Dance Instructor Workshops](#)

[Song booklet: "Hi Kantari"](#)



[NABO's Story by Argitxu Camus](#)

EUSKARA:

[Learning/Speaking Basque](#)

[NABO Euskara coordinator](#)

EDUCATIONAL | ENTERTAINMENT:

[Photo Exhibits](#) [Kantuketan Exhibit](#)

[GUREA Cultural Literacy](#)

[Kultur Astea-Culture Week](#)

[Genealogy & Surnames](#)

[Video](#)

[Entertainers/Athletes](#)

[Frequently asked questions about Basques](#)

[Basque-English Mass material](#)

[European entertainer offerings](#)

[Danborrada/Tamborrada club event](#)

[Urazandi: Oral History Projects](#)

[Your Basque Book Collection](#)

NABO ANNUAL EVENTS:

[Kantari Eguna](#) [Udaleku](#)

[Pilota finals](#)

[Mus Finals](#) [Junior Mus](#)

[Convention](#)

YOUTH SERVICES:

[Udaleku](#) [Gazteak-Youth Programs](#)

[Hosting visiting youth](#)



[Basque Government of Euskadi](#)

[Free online Basque TV](#)

June-July 2010 Concert offering. An Andoni Aguirre & Kristi Gjezi tour is scheduled to take place in June and July of 2010. Interested?

TREBESKA DANCE GROUP EXCHANGE OFFER. Interested?

BASQUE STONE CARVER. Interested?



BASQUE-ize your computer & cell phone

There is a growing assortment of Basque elements from Basque language software to wallpaper, that can be used to "Basque-ize" your computer. If you find others, please send us a link at info@nabasque.org



[Adobe pdf reader in Euskara](#)



[Web browser in Basque](#)

Animated Basque clip art:
<http://www.muturzikin.com/gif.htm>

Cell phones
[Cell Basque-English dictionary](#)

Ringtones (mp3)

[Banangoa: Tapia eta Leturia](#) [Fandangoa: Kepa Junkera](#)

[Kupela: Amuma Says No](#) [Tamborrada](#) [Hegi: Alboka](#) [DO YOU HAVE MORE?](#)



BASQUE BOOKSHELF: Your Basque book collection

So how is your collection of Basque books? Do you have some of the classics? Do you have some of the latest offerings? A great place to look to build your collection is the Center for Basque Studies [online bookstore](#).

Related link: [Educational Sources](#)





DANTZA

FALL 2010 "ARRATIA" WORKSHOP. As previously, NABO will be helping to coordinate a several city workshop that will focus on the "jota" and "porrusalda" styles from the Bizkaian valley of Arratia. At this point an inquiry is being made as to what clubs might be willing to host—which includes room and board for several days—and arranging a place for several hours of workshops.

ONLINE DANCE LIBRARY. N.A.B.O. is beginning to build an online library of material for the learning of Basque folks dances. The first offerings are:



Baztango Dantzak



Fandangoa | Arin-Arin

HERRIA DANTZAN: "The People Dancing." N.A.B.O. is seeking to provide material for the instruction of popular (i.e., not necessarily Basque dance group material) for all to participate in the festival dancing.



"Hartza." Hybrid dance group to keep and get young people dancing across various communities. SUMMER 2010



"Iparhaize II:" HReturn to Mar del Plata, Argentina of a hybrid group of dancers to participate in their Semana Vasca or annual Convention. FALL 2010



URAZANDI: Oral History Projects

The Urazandi ("from overseas") project in a nutshell is an attempt to collect the stories of immigrant Basque communities--before many of those who can tell these early stories leave us! The time is now for your community to get started on collecting these stories.

Basques have never been very good about noting their own history. Since the time of the Romans, most all of the commentary was by outsiders until fairly recently. While Basques are good about keeping traditions alive, this is one that we can set aside and instead get to work compiling our own community histories. If we don't do this, no one else will do it for us.

The Autonomous Basque Government of Euskadi began work on this years ago with their Urazandi ("from overseas") project. The San Francisco Basque community has recently completed their successful oral history project and the results were published in Pedro J. Oiarzabal's [Gardeners of Identity: Basques in the San Francisco Bay Area](#) (too order)

They have also made available for all (mil esker!) their organizing material if another Basque community want to get going with their own oral history project. This material is available at <http://www.sfbasque.org/urazandi/status.htm>.

There you will find an interviewer check list, data sheet, release form, interview questions, etc. They have made it much easier to begin. So now what is needed is for groups to form in our communities and get started!



EUSKAL ZINEMA: Basque Film Series

NABO received a set of DVDs of Basque films from the Basque Government, that we will soon endeavor to make available to NABO member clubs on a check-out basis. Titles include:

Vacas (damagaged original disc)	El Espiritu de la Colmena (Spanish; PAL)
La Pelota Vasca (original PAL only)	Frio Sol de Invierno (original PAL only)
La Comunidad (original PAL only)	Ama Lur (Spanish)
La Vida Manda (original PAL only)	Aupa Etxebeste! (available)
El Ladron de Suenos (original PAL only)	Gernika Gogoratuz (available)
Secretos del Corazon (available)	West of the Basque (available)
El Sol del Membrillo (available)	The Last Link (available)
La Isla del Cangrejo (available)	Euskal Herrian Barna (available)

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Euskal Nortasuna Garatzeko

Kultur

Astea

GUREA: "It's Ours"

ISSUE: What can NABO do to help members host periodic cultural and educational events to get people together?

"You cannot give what you do not have." Many of us want to give to younger generations a sense of *Basqueness* (Basque culture & identity) because we want to share what we have and what we have appreciated. What we have in relation to Basque culture we'll refer to as GUREA: "That which is ours." The problem--and don't take this personal--is that many of us don't have much depth or breadth of knowledge about Basqueness. This is the proposed definition of the problem and solution: we have to learn (ikasi) more to be able to teach (irakatsi) more.

One of the challenges that confronts those who wish to see Basqueness endure is the fact of the matter that most have only a limited understanding of Basque culture and identity. There are various reasons for this, including the fact that for many immigrant Basques, their initial understanding of the Basque Country was generally limited to only an area of about twenty miles from their birthplace. This was just the way life was at that time. Meanwhile while today its much easier to travel greater distances and to see many parts of the Basque Country, oftentimes on the tour-package plan the knowledge we get still remains limited.

Basque clubs regularly receive inquiries from European Basques that go along the lines of: "would like to meet Basque-Americans" and "prepared to work at whatever to cover expenses while there" and "want to help teach about Basque culture." In practice, very few of these inquiries ever meet with much success. Meanwhile, Basque clubs are always in search of ways of communicating information about "Basqueness:" Basque culture & identity. The proposal is to meld these two elements.

TEAM TRAINING. Basque country young adults apply to a program where the Directorate of Relations with Basque Communities prepares them. This preparation will enable them to present a one-week selection of classes and lessons geared to both children and adults.

ROTATION. This team (probably a pair) would spend one week in a host community then move to the next, covering from 4-6 communities during the course of a summer.

HOSTING REQUIREMENTS. Room and board for one week (either a hotel room or staying with a family) and local transportation (including a one-way trip to or from the previous/next community). Each club would have to make the necessary arrangements to secure a large room of sorts for the meetings.

SESSION OPTIONS. Morning sessions could be geared more to children, while later afternoon events would be for both young and old. They could include teaching dances, watching a Basque film (explained & discussed), cooking classes, Euskara introduction, etc. Send your comments to info@nabasque.org



2011	2012	2013	2010	
West	North	South	Central	Eastern
Fresno Los Banos Marin-Sonoma Rocklin Seattle SF Anaitasuna SF Basque Club SF Basque Center SF Basque Educational Organization	Boise Oinkari Dancers Salt Lake Buffalo Rock Springs Gooding Basque Museum Ontario Mountain Home Homedale Cenarrusa	Chino Bakersfield Las Vegas Southern California LA Oberena Ventura County	Reno Elko Winnemucca Gardnerville Susanville Santa Rosa Colorado Battle Mountain Center for Basque Studies	Washington D.C. NY EE NY Society of Basque Studies Montreal, Canada



Roberts
Rules of
Disorder



NABO MEETING PROCEDURES: Timely, fair & orderly

These are based on [Robert's Rules of Order](#), but ultimately we as a group decide what works best for us. The aim is to find a viable formula to make our meetings timely, fair and orderly.

General five minute report rule.* Each person speaking on a point on the agenda will be given an uninterrupted (no questions until finished) five minutes to briefly state (because delegates can later refer to specifics provided them in written form or online) ***Some reports are exempt from this five minute cap, including the Treasurer's & Facilitator reports, and periodically a Basque Government report.**

Questions & discussion. Following each specific presentation (that is not interrupted by questions) up to a ten minute period of discussion begins on this agenda point (which allows for questioning, input, motions from the floor, etc.). Note that all members wishing to speak about the motion receive the opportunity to speak before any one member speaks for a second time. If discussion/questions ends before the ten minute period, then we move to the next agenda item. If after ten minutes discussion continues, an automatic return to Robert's Rules of Order (specifically "Motion to Limit or Extend debate") will occur. At this point all delegates vote whether to continue the discussion. If the majority votes YES, the discussion continues for up to five minutes (when again the automatic vote is triggered)

If a majority votes NO, there are now several options:

- 1) "Call to Question:" to form or restate a motion to bring the matter to a vote or
- 2) "Refer to Committee:" the matter is now referred to a specific committee that is formed or an existing focus (advisory) group.
- 2) "Lay on the Table:" General discussion of the item is tabled. Those still interested in the matter can follow up and it's possible to "take from the table" and reopen the matter at a later time.