

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2013  
Brooklyn, New York

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

Welcome by Iban Ubaretxena, the Vice-President of the Euskal Etxea New York. Iban introduced Iker Goni, the Secretary of the Euskal Etxea New York, who informed the delegates about the weekend's events.

Introductions and Roll Call

**Officers**

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

**Committee Chairperson**

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, excused  
Video – Jesus Pedroarena, excused  
Education – John Ysursa, excused  
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea  
Udaleku – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea, Kate Camino  
Mus – Pierre Etcharren, excused  
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre  
Music/Dance – Lisa Corcostegui, excused  
Pilota – Evelyne Etcharren, excused  
History – Patty Miller, Steve Bass, excused  
Txerriki – Gratien Etchebehere  
Kantari Eguna – Noel Goyhenetche, excused  
Beti Gazte – Kristiane Bizkarra, excused

**Club Delegates**

|                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alkartasuna                           | Martin Goicoechea       |
| Anaitasuna Basque Club                | Gina Espinal            |
|                                       | Marisa Espinal          |
| Basque Educational Organization (BEO) | Marisa Espinal          |
| Basque Museum & Cultural Center       | Cindy Schaffeld + proxy |
| Basque Club of Utah                   | Mary Gaztambide         |
|                                       | Danny Gaztambide        |
| Big Horn Basque Club (Buffalo)        | Jamie Torske (proxy)    |
|                                       | Mary Torske (proxy)     |

Boise Euzkaldunak, Inc.  
proxy  
Center for Basque Studies, Reno  
Cennarusa Foundation  
Chino Basque Club

Elko Euskaldunak  
Euskal Lagunak-Mountain Home B. C.  
Euskaldunak Quebec (Montreal)

Fresno Basque Club  
(proxy)  
Kern County Basque Club (Bakersfield)

Las Vegas Basque Club  
Los Banos Basque Club  
Marin Sonoma Basque Club  
(proxy)  
Mendiko Euskaldun Club (Gardnerville)  
Miami Euskal Etxea  
New York Euskal Etxea

Oinkari Dancers  
Ontario Basque Club  
San Francisco Basque Club

San Francisco Basque Cultural Center  
Etchebehere  
Txoko Ono, Homedale, ID  
Washington D.C. Euskal Etxea

Proxies for quorum only, no votes:  
New Mexico (Blas Uberuaga)  
Ventura (Pello Urrutia)  
LA Oberena (Pello Urrutia)  
Susanville (Michelle Zubillaga)  
Vancouver (Elena Sommers)

### **Guests**

Asier Vallejo, Basque Government  
Miren Perez Eguireun, Basque Government Office Boise  
Joseba Etxarri, EuskalKultura.com  
John Mainvil, Ontario  
Anne Marie Chiramberro, San Francisco  
Teresa Echeverria, Bakersfield

Steve Achabal +

Kate Camino + proxy  
Gloria Tortoricaguena  
Pierre Goyenette  
John Goyenette  
Anita Anacabe Franzoia + proxy  
Goisalde Jausoro + proxy  
Noel Fagoaga  
Adelaide Daraspe  
Gina Espinal

Louis Iturriria  
Joey Iturriria  
Argia Beristain  
Julian "Joe" Zabalbeascoa  
Lisa Etchepare

Gina Espinal (proxies)  
Boni Guenetxea  
Ana Aguirre  
Iban Ubarretxena  
Cindy Schaffeld (proxy)  
Grace Mainvil + proxy  
Lisa Etchepare  
Jean Pierre Elissetche  
Gratien

Steve Achabal (2 proxies)  
Argia Beristain  
Sam Zengotitabengoa

Maria Toretta, Bakersfield  
Ernest Behaxeteguy, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Monique Behaxeteguy, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Madeleine Apesteguy, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Michelle Cavanna, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Jacques Cavanna, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Hugues Lacroix, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Sara Maranda-Gauvin, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Amande Anin, Euskaldunak Quebec  
| Marie Pourquoiie, Euskaldunak Quebec  
Iker Goni, New York  
Aitzol Azurtza, New York

### **On-line Guests**

Philippe Acheritogaray, BEO

### **Approval of the July 2013 Minutes**

Marisa Espinal submitted the July 2013 minutes. Anita Anacabe Franzoia noted that although Amaya Ormaza-Winer gave the introduction at the Elko meeting she is not the president of the Elko Basque Club she is the delegate.

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

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

Delegates were given the balance sheet and the profit loss statements to review. Grace Mainvil acknowledged that all clubs were current in their dues. Please see the Facilitator's packet for full details. There were no questions asked by the delegates.

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

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

- | Izaskun Kortazar announced a Barnetegi for the summer in Gipuzkoa. They need at least 8 people to sign up. It can be at a beginner's level if that is the need of those who sign up. The feedback from the students from the United States who attended the Barnetegi in Maizpide was very positive. Please contact [euskara@nabasque.com](mailto:euskara@nabasque.com) if you are interested.

There is the possibility to have a Basque Language Proficiency Exam here in the United States. There would need to be a minimum of twelve participants. There would be no cost for the exam; an instructor from the Basque Country would be the proctor. The Basque Government would provide both the exam and the instructor. Please contact [euskara@nabasque.com](mailto:euskara@nabasque.com) if you are interested. Location of the exam in the United States is yet to be determined.

If you want to celebrate Euskara Eguna/Day of Basque Language on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at your club as many Euskal Etxea are now doing please contact [euskara@nabasque.com](mailto:euskara@nabasque.com) for ideas of how to participate.

BOGA must be set up again even if you were an existing student. Just send an email to [euskara@nabasque.com](mailto:euskara@nabasque.com) to be set-up again.

Martin Goicoechea thanked Izaskun for the great job she has done over the last six years as the Euskara Coordinator. She is stepping down from this position. There are five applicants for the position. This will be discussed further under new business.

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

No report. This committee was originally designed to help clubs find videos in Basque. The chairman would often transfer videos from the Basque Country into a VHS format. With the Internet and DVDs there is less need for this from the Video Committee.

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

Please contact Mary Lou for calendars at her new email:

[calendar@nabasque.org](mailto:calendar@nabasque.org) or through [Marylou@gracegroup.com](mailto:Marylou@gracegroup.com)

Calendars may be purchased through PayPal.

**History** (Patty Miller, excused Steve Bass, excused)

Many of our membership are getting older. We would like to record their oral histories before it is too late. Pedro Oiarzabal will be helping coordinate this project with funding from the Etxepare Institute. Pedro will develop interview protocol and train interviewers.

Delegates were asked to send one name from each club to be the contact person and send a list of possible interviewers and those identified to be interviewed prioritizing those eighty years old or older. If anyone is interested in being on the History Committee please contact Patty Miller or Steve Bass. You can send the names of the contact for your club or the interviewees to Steve at [steve@bassque.com](mailto:steve@bassque.com) or to Patty at [pattyam@basquemuseum.com](mailto:pattyam@basquemuseum.com) you may also send the names of interviewees to [info@nabasque.org](mailto:info@nabasque.org) or [President@nabasque.org](mailto:President@nabasque.org) because N.A.B.O. is keeping a spreadsheet of names to be interviewed.

Asier Vallejo clarified the Basque Government has committed to financially supporting this project through different departments including: Etxepare Institute and the Office of Foreign Affairs. It will be a collaboration between N.A.B.O., University of Nevada Reno Basque Studies Program and the Basque Government.

A short clip was shown of interviews that have already been recorded.

**Pilota** (Evelyne Etcharren, excused)

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

A big thank you to the Boise Basque Club for hosting the 2013 Pilota finals. We are looking for someone to host the 2014 finals. Bakersfield offered to host the Pilota finals in conjunction with the convention.

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

San Francisco and Boise hosted very successful summer Pilota camps for youth with the instructor sent by the World Pilota council who also taught at Udaleku.

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

It is one of our most important programs. A show of hands made evident that almost everyone at the meeting had attended, taught, hosted or sent children to an Udaleku. One of the greatest outcomes of Udaleku, aside from the networking and social connections is the renewed interest the children develop in their Basque Culture. Former participants become future aides and instructors.

**Udaleku 2013**

Teresa Iturriria and Maria Toretta, two of the organizers of the 2013 Udaleku in Bakersfield were present at the meeting in New York and gave a presentation. The focus of this Udaleku was showcasing that which is unique to Bakersfield, agriculture and dairy. They admitted they had never attended an Udaleku, but relied on their experience as educators. They shared some tips for those considering hosting Udaleku. Here are a few:

- Having enough people to supervise the children is key.
- Look for people who enjoy working with children.
- Keep the kids occupied. Mus anyone?
- Have an orientation for all the parents of participants.
- Make use of community volunteers. Their advice is: don't wait for people to volunteer, ask them for help! Tap into people's different talents or resources.

They offered to share their templates for any club who is interested in hosting Udaleku but is not sure what is involved. N.A.B.O. also has templates available for those hosting Udaleku on google docs.

The Udaleku organizers could not say enough about how wonderful the instructors from the Basque Country were. Asier Vallejo mentioned he had recently met with one of the instructors and he expressed it was a great experience for her as well.

**Udaleku 2014:** Elko will host Udaleku in 2014. June 22 - July 4, ending with the Elko festival. The theme of the camp will be Bizkaia. It is best to have the housing set up before opening the application process so we know

the exact number of spots available. Applications will open March 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be one application per family. The cost per child will be \$375.00.

Gina Espinal thanked Maria Toretta and Teresa Iturriria for their dynamic presentation and mentioned no children from the east coast clubs have participated in Udaleku. Although the cost is prohibitive, N.A.B.O. offers scholarships. She encouraged the east coast clubs to consider sending their children to the next Udaleku in Elko.

Morning Break 10:00 – 10:20

## **Special Presentation**

### **Etxepare Institute**

Aizpea Goenaga and Marijo Olaziregi gave a presentation. The Etxepare Institute gets its name from the first Basque writer, Fernando Etxepare. The mission is to promote Basque language and culture abroad. Globalization is a big issue for the Basque Country. The Etxepare Institute creates collaboration and agreements with cultural organizations and festivals around the world to showcase Basque artists, music, literature, and culture. Some of their objectives include:

- Promote the teaching and study of Basque Language and Culture at Universities – 37 agreements with Universities in 13 countries all over the world, 120 grants to cultural programs in those universities. This includes in the United States: Chicago, Santa Barbara, Boise, Stanford, and New York.
- Promote international recognition of Basque Language and Culture, they help facilitate agreements and contracts between authors, artists and publishers. They currently have 24 agreements with international cultural organizations. They work on translation of literary works into Basque.

They have been working mainly in Europe, a little in the United States and they will be hosting some events in Argentina, starting with a Book Faire. There are books available for download from the website in Basque, Spanish, and English.

They will offer a grant or fellowship annually or bi-annually that emphasizes research on the Diaspora. In 2014 the recipient will be the Oral History Project with Dr. Pedro Oiarzabal as the project director through collaboration between the University of Duestq and the University of Nevada Basque Studies Program. Asier Vallejo asked that N.A.B.O. have an update on the oral history project by the February meeting in San Francisco.

Please check out their website [www.etxepareinstitutua.net](http://www.etxepareinstitutua.net) to see some of their current and past projects, including the Badu Bada exhibition.

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

N.A.B.O. sponsored the youth dinner Saturday night, July 6<sup>th</sup> in the park at the Elko Convention. As the expenses were minimal, the decision was made that N.A.B.O. cover the full costs of the dinner. The event was a success, with six dance groups attending.

**Mus:** (Pierre Etcharren, excused)

Noel Erdozaincy and Erramun Lahargou won the N.A.B.O. Mus tournament. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time they have advanced to represent the United States in the International Mus Tournament. Next year's finals will be held in Marin Sonoma on May 31<sup>st</sup>. All clubs need to have their tournament before May 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

**International Mus 2013:**

The International Mus Tournament will take place from October 26<sup>th</sup> - November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Puerto Varas, Chile. It is 1,000 km south of Santiago. Those interested in accompanying the tournament should contact Pierre Etcharren at [etcharren@msn.com](mailto:etcharren@msn.com) for further details.

**Future International Mus Dates:**

2014 in Cancun, Mexico, 2015 in Uruguay, 2016 in Euskadi, and 2017 in the U.S.A. We are looking for a place to host the International Mus Tournament in the United States. Maybe Las Vegas? Plans have not been finalized yet.

The president gave a brief history of the first International Mus tournament. It began as a competition between Spain and France. Then the United States joined and held the first N.A.B.O. tournament and sent a team to participate. In 1978 the International Mus Tournament was brought to the United States and all countries with Euskal Etxea were invited. 8 countries participated and now about 13 countries participate.

**Junior Mus** (Gina Espinal)

Gina Espinal thanked the Elko Basque Club for hosting the Junior Mus Tournament. Next year will be the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Junior Mus Tournament. The 2014 Junior Mus Tournament will be held at the Convention in Bakersfield where the first Junior Mus Tournament was held.

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

No report.

**Txerri Sukalde Txapeldun** (Gratien Etchebehere)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Txerri Txapeldun winners were: tripota/morcilla: Utah Basque Club and chorizo (with red pepper): Susan Gavica from Paradise Valley.

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

Kantari Eguna 2014 will take place in October in conjunction with the Rocklin picnic and fall N.A.B.O. meeting. All singers are encouraged to participate.

**Education** (John Ysursa, excused)

There are currently three initiatives: 1) BasqUe – encourage youth to attend Universities with Basque Studies Programs. 2) Hezkuntza Eguna/Education Day – draw attention to the motto of Celebrate + EDUCATE = Perpetuate with emphasis on Educate. 3) Hezkuntza Eguna/Education Day in Conjunction with the N.A.B.O. Convention. BOGA is the new on-line Basque Studies Journal that picks up where the Journal of Basque Studies in America left off. You can read more about it at <http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/boga/> Please see committee report for full details.

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

**Cultural tours**

Eight different communities, Boise, Mountain Home, Ontario, Reno, San Francisco, Chino, Bakersfield, and New York were able to enjoy a performance by Kalakan. Kate Camino thanked all of the clubs who hosted Kalakan, particularly Chino and Bakersfield who stepped up at the last minute when Kalakan requested to perform at additional venues. The Basque Government Grant covered most of the international travel. The domestic travel and other costs were shared by all of the participating clubs. Each club covered room and board.

In the past artists have approached N.A.B.O. and then N.A.B.O. asked the clubs to host the performers for these cultural tours. Kate would like to see the interest generated at the club level. She would like clubs to request artists or activities that they know their membership would be interested in.

**Astero**

The numbers have increased to 1400 active readers. Grace Mainvil questioned the delegates why we have over 6000 members and only 1400 actively viewing the Astero. Grace encouraged the delegates to go back to their clubs and encourage members to open the Astero Link. Asier Vallejo asked when that membership information would be available to the Basque Government as was promised at the Elko meeting. That information will be sent to the Basque Government. It will only include membership numbers, no personal information.

**Website**

There was a poor response to the request for a picture or video for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The idea was each club would send a photo of their club when they

first joined N.A.B.O. and then a current photo of the club or members. Lisa created a short video clip of the photos that will be available on the website.

### **N.A.B.O. Email Addresses**

The @nabasque.org is simply a pass through so if the personal email address is incorrect any email sent is lost forever. It is vital all committee chairpersons let the N.A.B.O. Webmaster know of any email changes.

Here is a list of N.A.B.O. Officer and Chairmen Contact email addresses:

|                      |                       |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| President:           | Valerie Arrechea      | <a href="mailto:President@nabasque.org">President@nabasque.org</a>   |
| Vice President:      | Mary Gaztambide       | <a href="mailto:VP@nabasque.org">VP@nabasque.org</a>                 |
| Treasurer:           | Grace Mainvil         | <a href="mailto:Treasurer@nabasque.org">Treasurer@nabasque.org</a>   |
| Secretary:           | Marisa Espinal        | <a href="mailto:Secretary@nabasque.org">Secretary@nabasque.org</a>   |
| Facilitator:         | Kate Camino           | <a href="mailto:info@nabasque.org">info@nabasque.org</a>             |
| Beti Gazte:          | Kristiane Bizkarra    | <a href="mailto:youth@nabasque.org">youth@nabasque.org</a>           |
| Calendar:            | Mary Lou Urrutia      | <a href="mailto:calendar@nabasque.org">calendar@nabasque.org</a>     |
| Dance:               | Lisa Corcostegui      | <a href="mailto:dance@nabasque.org">dance@nabasque.org</a>           |
| Education/Hezkuntza: | John Ysursa           | <a href="mailto:education@nabasque.org">education@nabasque.org</a>   |
| Euskara:             | Martin Goicoechea     | <a href="mailto:bertsolari@nabasque.org">bertsolari@nabasque.org</a> |
| Euskara Coordinator: | Itxaso Cayero         | <a href="mailto:euskara@nabasque.org">euskara@nabasque.org</a>       |
| Euskara Coordinator: | Aitor Inarra          |  |
| History:             | Patty Miller          | <a href="mailto:pattym@basquemuseum.com">pattym@basquemuseum.com</a> |
| History:             | Steve Bass            | <a href="mailto:steve@bassque.com">steve@bassque.com</a>             |
| Kantari Eguna:       | Noel Goyhenetche      | <a href="mailto:kantari@nabasque.org">kantari@nabasque.org</a>       |
| Kantari Eguna:       | Becky Sarratea-Murphy |  |
| Mus:                 | Pierre Etcharren      | <a href="mailto:mus@nabasque.org">mus@nabasque.org</a>               |
| Junior Mus           | Gina Espinal          | <a href="mailto:juniormus@nabasque.org">juniormus@nabasque.org</a>   |
| Music                | Caroline Chiramberro  | <a href="mailto:music@nabasque.org">music@nabasque.org</a>           |
| Pilota               | Evelyne Etcharren     | <a href="mailto:pilota@nabasque.org">pilota@nabasque.org</a>         |
| Txerri Sukalde       | Gratien Etchebehere   | <a href="mailto:txerriki@nabasque.org">txerriki@nabasque.org</a>     |
| Udaleku              | Valerie Arrechea      | <a href="mailto:udaleku@nabasque.org">udaleku@nabasque.org</a>       |
| Udaleku              | Kate Camino           | <a href="mailto:info@nabasque.org">info@nabasque.org</a>             |
| Video                | Jesus Pedroarena      | <a href="mailto:video@nabasque.org">video@nabasque.org</a>           |

### **Old Business**

#### **Updating Contact information**

Gina Espinal suggested we send out a survey to clubs about cultural tour interest or suggestions. This will be added to the annual request for updated information

that includes: current board of directors, emails, physical addresses, and other contact names for the dance instructor, choir director, klika director, mus, etc. Iker Goni suggested that the information needed by the Basque Government be included on the membership application. He suggested applications should be available online.

Update your information with the Basque Government as well at [euskaletxeak.net](http://euskaletxeak.net)

## **New Business**

### **Facilitator Position**

Kate Camino has agreed to remain as Facilitator and will continue to subcontract with Lisa Corcostegui. The Basque Government funds this position.

- Louis Iturriria made a motion that Kate remain as facilitator for 2014. 2nded by Martin Goicoechea. Unanimously approved.

### **Euskara Coordinator**

Izaskun Kortazar is stepping down as coordinator. Izaskun received a resounding round of applause for all of her work as the Euskara Coordinator. The Euskara Coordinator is a position that is also funded by the Basque Government. The contract runs from January through December.

The Euskara committee would like to be given the authority to interview the applicants and hire the best candidate. Cindy Schaffeld asked who is on the committee. Includes: Martin Goicoechea, Izaskun Kortazar, John Ysursa, Anita Anacabe Franzoia and any volunteers. Goisalde Jausoro would like to be on the committee and thinks the Euskara instructors should have some input as well. Applicants for the position may not be on the Euskara hiring committee.

The 5 applicants are: Itxaso Cayero, Aitor Inarra, Unai Nafarrete, Oihana Andion Martinez, Daniel Oiarbide, and Jose Luis Egiluz. Gina Espinal asked if the applicants needed to be a member of a Basque Club. It would be preferred. We would also prefer our coordinator to be living in the US.

- Gratien Etchebehere made a motion that the Euskara Committee can interview and hire the new Euskara Coordinator. 2nded by Jamie Torske. Majority approved.

## **Questions or Announcements:**

### **Los Banos is having their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.**

They would like to coordinate with Bakersfield to share hosting cultural tours when they host the convention and celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **East Coast Euskal Etxeak**

The president asked for some information on each of the east coast clubs and any collaboration between the east coast clubs.

Adelaide Deraspre described the Euskaldunak Quebec in Montreal. It began 17 years ago. It is a very young, under 30 years old, and older over 60 years old club. Not many middle-aged people, but great collaboration amongst the members. The New York Euskal Etxea participated in the Indianoak project of the Euskaldunak Quebec. They are training every week and they need 14 people to sail the trainera. They organize different events to spread not just old customs, but current Basque cultural projects. Monique Behaxeteguy said Montreal is a small club and it was important to be part of N.A.B.O. They didn't realize how important it was until they saw how it made them feel part of the larger Basque Community.

### **Washington D.C.**

Argia Beristain told the story of the Washington D.C. Basque Club. The idea for the club was born when a few Basque people were present at the showing of the Last Link at the French Embassy in Washington D.C. It began as a potluck in someone's home. It is a small club, but they feel they have an impact. They are considering the possibility of hosting a N.A.B.O. Convention in the future. They don't have a clubhouse. Sam Zengotitabengoa questions whether a clubhouse is necessary to the future of Euskal Etxeak. The president pointed out many Basque Clubs don't have physical clubhouses.

### **Miami**

Boni Guenetxea told the history of the Miami Euskal Etxea. In 1986 there was the Txoko Alai. After the Jai Alai strike in 1988 many players lost their jobs and went back to the Basque Country or stayed away because they didn't want to be reminded of their glory days as jai alai players. The Txoko Alai became the Txoko Ona – a men's only club. Credit must be given to Jose Ramon Zengotitabengoa of the Society for Basque Studies who organized a great event in Miami. The Miami Club became the Euskal Etxea again just a few years ago, but last year they had to release the clubhouse. They still have active members. Like many other club they have older and much younger members and they have the typical celebrations, San Ignacio, Easter, and picnics. They are now a virtual club with very ethnically diverse membership.

### **New York**

For many years the face of New York for N.A.B.O. was Ana Aguirre's parents and Amelia Doyaga. When Ana's parents were no longer able to be the delegates Ana immediately volunteered. It was more than 20 years ago that New York volunteered to host the convention in 2013.

Aitzol Azurtza pointed out they have about 100 members. The demographics have changed over the years, as the Washington Club expressed they have a

very transient population. It is no longer a benevolent society designed to help recent immigrants. Iban Ubarretxena added modern Basque immigrants want to immerse themselves in American culture. They are not interested in meeting with other Basques on a weekly basis as was done in the past. Only after they have been in the United States for a few years, are starting families, and realize they are planting roots here do they become interested in connecting with other Basques. There are some challenges. There is a disconnect between different generations, as well as between American born Basques and recent Basque immigrants. The expense of maintaining the clubhouse in New York is prohibitive even though there is no mortgage. They need to rent out their clubhouse to remain financially stable. Running as a volunteer organization as many other clubs does not work for New York.

Aitzol Azurtza would like to see more collaboration between the east coast clubs. He feels the east and west are physically and socially different. Joe Zabalbeascoa who is from the west and is now in the east thinks the east coast clubs need to do more outreach to locate Basques in their area. The president encouraged the east coast clubs to extend an invitation to the west coast clubs for their events. Sam Zengotitabengoa mentioned they have discussed different ideas, but as mentioned earlier their population is smaller and more transient so it is hard to make plans too far into the future. Mary Torske noted that although their club in Buffalo has also changed over the years and their membership is now quite small. They capitalize on what they have in the area. They have successfully held N.A.B.O. Conventions with the help of non-Basques in their community. Several delegates and guests reiterated the message that if dance groups are invited they will find a way to come and support the club's events. They have performed for very small audiences. The hosting club needs to be more aggressive with their outreach: book a special room rate at local hotels, arrange tours, etc.

Lunch Break 1:10 – 2:15

The new Lehendakari of the Basque Government, Inigo Urkullu, was introduced to the delegates. He spoke in Basque and said a few words in English. He was presented with a N.A.B.O. plaque.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

**Future Meeting Schedule:**

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:**

2014: Bakersfield, CA

2015: Boise, ID in conjunction with Jaialdi

2016:

2017: Chino, CA

2018 Winnemucca, NV

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