



EUZKALDUNAK

2021

URRIA

OCTOBER

Monthly Member Newsletter

FROM THE KITCHEN

The Basque Center will hold a Curbside Pickup “monthly dinner” on Sunday, October 17, from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM. This dinner will be hosted by Aiztan Artean and the Euzkaldunak Board of Directors and friends.

Cars will drive through Grove Street, stop in front of the Basque Center, and meals will be taken directly to the cars. Alternatively, it will be possible to walk in to pick up the meals; a line will be organized in front of the Basque Center where masks and social distancing will be requested.

October 2021 Curbside Dinner Menu

Tossed Green Salad with Creamy Garlic Dressing
Orange Roughy with Lemon Sauce
Solomo with Pimientos
Potatoes Au Gratin
Chocolate Eclairs
Fresh Homemade Bread & Butter

Curbside Pickup Dinner Price

\$15.00 per meal (all member types)

Online Reservations

Please make your curbside pickup dinner reservations using the reservation link on the Basque Center website, www.basquecenter.com. If you experience an issue with online payment, please contact secretary@basquecenter.com immediately for assistance. If you are unable to make your reservation online, please call in your reservation to 208-572-0604.

The deadline for dinner reservations is **8:00 PM on Wednesday, October 13**, but we invite you to make your reservation as soon as possible to help with logistics.

DINNER HOSTS NEEDED

The Basque Foundation, Inc., would like to thank the many families and organizations who have acted as a host group for a monthly dinner. Due to busy schedules and timing, we are always in need of additional assistance. If your family or organization would like to get involved, please email president@basquecenter.com.

SEPTEMBER CURBSIDE DINNER THANK YOU

Eskerrik Askto to the Euzkaldunak Board, Friends of the Board and Aiztan Artean for making the September Curbside Pickup Dinner a great success: Johnny Boyd, Alicia Knox, Jeremy Knox, Nekane Colburn, Paytan Dennis, Ryan Boyd, Abby Dyk, Ian Knox, Elise Overgaard, Alenna Knox, Linda Achurra, Gerri Achurra, Asier Beldarrain Ruiz de Azua, Julene Lahuerta Larrabe, Juliana Aldape, Robby Lou Gary, Teresa Amillategui Grimm, Larry Asin, Tyler Smith, Cheryl Asin, Ed Orbea and Patty Gabica

A special thanks to Jesus Alcelay and Miren Urresti Laughrin for preparing a delicious meal for 150+ hungry diners.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Throughout the pandemic, the Euzkaldunak Board of Directors has been committed to ensuring the safety of our community, members, patrons and staff. Unfortunately, due to the Surge of COVID-19 cases overwhelming local hospitals and the high transmission rates in the Treasure Valley, the Board of Directors voted to make some changes to upcoming events. More information is described below, and we will continue to update the calendar on the last page of this newsletter as needed.

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we work hard to fully bring back our community.

2021 MORZILLA BAZAAR AND DINNER

The Board of Directors have made the difficult decision to cancel our annual November Bazaar event. However, the Board is still monitoring the pandemic and has not yet made a decision on proceeding with making morzillas and/or hosting a morzilla dinner. We will keep the membership apprised of our decisions regarding morzilla making and the dinner as soon as they are made. The safety of our members and community are our priority when deciding to hold indoor events.

2021 CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Board of Directors has voted to cancel the 2021 Children's' Halloween Party that was scheduled for Sunday, October 24.

EUZKALDUNAK WANTS YOU!

Every year during our General Meeting in January, the Euzkaldunak membership elects half of its Board of Directors. This year, there will be five (5) vacant positions. If you would like to serve our Basque community, work with a great bunch of people, and have a lot of fun, please think about running! If you are interested in learning more about the responsibilities of being on the Board or if you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, please contact Ed Orbea at president@basquecenter.com or Alicia Knox at vicepresident@basquecenter.com

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BOISEKO GAZTEAK

Boiseko Gazteak practice is underway! All the latest information can be found at our page on the Basque Center website:

basquecenter.com/community/boiseko-gazteak

Boiseko Parents: If you are not receiving periodic emails with information about Boiseko, please email boiseko@basquecenter.com with your email address and child's name.

2021-2022 Calendar (TENTATIVE):

- 9/28 - First practice at 7PM (practice each Tuesday until November 30, no practice on November 23 due to Thanksgiving break)
- 12/05 - Winter Show (Borah High) & Euzkaldunak Children's Christmas Party (Basque Center)
- 1/11 - Practice resumes at 7PM (practice each Tuesday until March 8)
- 3/13 - Spring Show (Borah High)
- 7/25 & 26 - Jaialdi practice at 7PM
- 7/30 - Jaialdi 2022 performance (Expo Idaho)

2022 INTERNATIONAL MUS

Euzkaldunak is hosting the 2022 International Mus tournament. The tournament will be the week of [October 9, 2022](#), and culminate with the finals on Saturday, October 15. The Board is excited to take on hosting responsibilities but are soliciting help from members to plan excursions, hotel rooms, and meals. If you are interested in helping with this exciting event, please email Tyler Smith at tylerjnsmith@gmail.com.

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Tuesday - Friday

10am - 4pm

Saturday

11am - 3pm

basquemuseum.eus - check for latest updates!

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PILOTA LEAGUES HAVE RESUMED

After a long break, the Boise Fronton Association has restarted our weekly pala and baleen leagues in the Anduiza Fronton, with 36 players playing in the different leagues from Monday to Thursday. Several new players have joined the leagues, bringing their youthful enthusiasm to the fronton, ensuring that this traditional game is kept alive in Boise. We have also started the Pilota school, with 4 kids playing handball on Mondays. We follow the CDC guidelines regarding the practice of sports to ensure the safety of all players.

OINKARI MUS TOURNAMENT OCTOBER 23

Set your calendars for [October 23](#) to play in the Annual Oinkari mus tournament. Registration will be at 9:30 AM with games beginning at 10:00 AM. The cost is \$50 a team, and the winning team will represent Oinkaris at the regional Mus tournament. All current Oinkari members and alumni are welcome.

OINKARI SAGARDOTEGI POSTPONED

Normally, we look forward to transforming the Basque Center into a traditional Sagardotegi every fall. But in order to ensure we can enjoy it without limitations, we are moving it to the spring of next year. Stay tuned for more details as we finalize plans for Sagardotegi 2022 this spring!

BASQUE DIASPORA INTERVIEWS

Eneko Bidegain, a professor at Mondragon University is visiting UNR from September 15 – November 15, 2021. He'd like to make a trip to Boise in October to interview local Basques regarding their communication with the Basque Country. If you have questions or are willing to give Eneko an in-person interview, please contact him at ebidegain@mondragon.edu. Even if you can't give an interview, Eneko is also seeking responses via this online questionnaire: forms.gle/e6aamAoPMoERNX817.

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RENOVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The pandemic has brought many challenges to all of us. Our Basque Center events have been halted or interrupted, and we have missed our “home.” Despite all that has happened throughout these last months, the members of the Renovation Committee have continued to meet.

As we have discussed in members’ meetings prior to the pandemic and in our newsletters, an improved facility is vital to our community. We need to ensure that our home on the Basque Block has a safe and special place to gather, socialize, celebrate, remember loved ones, learn, and make new memories for generations to come.

Various creative ideas have been considered, and plans now have a measure of focus: we intend to stay downtown in our current location (vs. moving to a different place); we intend to make optimum use of the space we have available. The Renovation Committee has been hard at work to address these issues. It continues to form plans to upgrade our kitchen, bar, bathrooms, dance hall—and to make sure that all improvements meet or exceed code requirements for safety and accessibility.

The Renovation Committee is focusing on:
1) History & Communications; 2) Renovation building plans, design & drawings; 3) Fundraising & financing options. The Committee will continue to communicate with our Euzkaldunak membership via the newsletter and will continue surfacing historical topics related to our 601 Grove Street home via History Corner submissions.

We look forward to refurbishing our home! Our Basque Center has been the special place for our community to gather and enjoy traditions for over 70 years. We want to continue our legacies and to stay relevant in our home for another 70+ years. Please stay tuned!

It’s our time ... again – for a renovated Basque Center.



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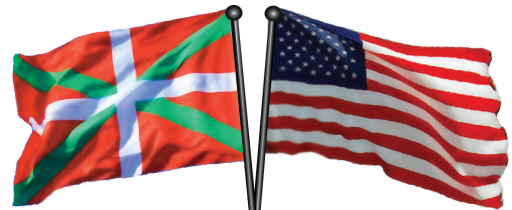


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History Corner: La Organización Independiente Social (Ladies' Organization)

Shortly after a group of Boise Basque men founded their insurance organization called Socorros Mutuos (which has been described in a previous History Corner in this newsletter), the women set up their own organization in January of 1933. Women who were Basque or were married to a Basque man could join “La Organización Independiente Social.” The women, who needed to be at least 16 years old, established a life insurance policy program. They paid annual dues which provided an insurance payback at the time of the member’s death. In the first year, the annual dues were \$2 and the death benefit was \$100.

In addition to the insurance program, the ladies acted in support of one another—one person compared the club to a Ladies Relief Society. If a family suffered a hardship, the ladies would provide food, child care, transportation and oftentimes helped to pay burial costs. Individual members donated directly at the time of need or they contributed to a “ways and means” fund to help others when the occasion arose. The ladies knitted and crocheted and baked and prepared homemade items which they sold through raffles and at various events to raise money. They had many card parties where money was donated to the fund. The organization helped out not only members of their own club but also families in the community that were in need. As a group, they also provided service to Euzkaldunak in sponsoring or working at an event.

Records indicate that in 1950 dues were \$3 per year; the death benefit was \$400 and a \$10 flower arrangement was provided. Between 1963 through 1978, the dues were \$7 and the death benefit had increased to \$500. From 1945 to 1978, there were over 300 members in La Organización Independiente Social. By 1990, dues were raised to \$10 with a death benefit of \$750. (The flowers were discontinued; instead, a donation was made to the Basque Center or the Basque Museum in the name of the deceased.) Through the ‘70s and beyond, the club mainly served its membership for insurance purposes. Socially, the ladies met once a year for an annual business meeting and luncheon.

Women who were important during the founding and in leadership and record keeping: Tomasa Erquiaga, Julie Garmendia, Marie Arregui, Rose Dick, Rose Arana, Joan Prickett and Adriana Groff. The current officers and board members are: Begone Rementeria Zabala, President; Luise Guisasola Echevarria, Vice President; Anita Arana Bumgarner, Secretary-Treasurer; and board members Irene Mingo Baalson, Antonia Arana Bicandi, Jean Mingo Cottier, Petra Arana Spolar.

The organization is still active for those women who became members no later than the early ‘80s. By this time, a restructuring had taken place and La Organización Independiente Social found it necessary to close to new members/policyholders. Today’s members pay \$15 per year and have a \$1,000 death benefit. It remains an organization for insurance purposes, with approximately 56 remaining members. While most members live in Idaho, many have maintained their membership residing in several other states. The ladies range in age from 50+ to 99 years of age. La Organización’s most senior members are Julia Ueberuaga Coleman and Joan Arriola Prickett, both of whom turned 99 in the summer of 2021.

The founding of La Organización Independiente Social is important to the history of Euzkaldunak in that this was the first club established by and for women. The Basque Girls’ Club (often called “The Knitting Club”) soon followed, organized as a social-service club in 1936. This club was featured in the June 2021 issue of the Euzkaldunak newsletter. The second group was important in providing support and assistance to many of the Basque Center’s events for over 50 years. Both groups laid the groundwork for Aiztan Artean, which got its start in the fall of 1972—also as a social-service group. With over 50 members, Aiztan hopes to continue to provide support to our Basque community for years to come.

NOTE: The information included in History Corner articles is gathered from many sources, including record books and logs, interviews, and previously published materials. We apologize for any misinformation or errors that may occur and welcome corrections or comments

OCTOBER ZORIONAK

If you don't see your birthday during your birthday month and would like it to show up on this list, please email secretary@basquecenter.com so it can be added to the member database.

Euzkaldunak member birthdays:


Miguel Aizpitarte, Michael Amestoy, Luis Amorebieta, Michelle Landa Andrews, Jack Areitio, Santos Areitio, Josune Arrieta, Ana Bidaburu Asla, Christina Gary Bawden, Sabino Beascochea, Josu Bieter, John Bilbao, Martina Ciluaga, Nekane Colburn, Michael Crane, Mary Curtis, Jesse Bermensolo Cutler, Ed DeCouto, Robert T Dennis, Jacob Echevarria, Diana Echeverria, Jeannie Eiguren, Mike Frank, Angelo Gamboa, Annie Gavica, Tobby Goicoechea, Coro Goitiandia, Joe M Guerricabeitia, Rosa Marie Guerricabeitia, Derris Head, Pat Hormaechea, Jim Hovda, Bonnie Kerns, Gina Landa, Susi Larrocea, Jaclyn Lasuen, Toni Lawson, Scott Lliteras, Joe Mansisidor, Ana Mendiola, Libby Moss, Rose Marie Murgoitio, Dave Navarro, Andoni Odencrantz, Peggy Orbea, Ed Orbea, Benan Oregi, Michele Otazua, Angela Paz, Lisa Berriochoa Robbins, Diana Sabala, Jim Sexauer, Damiana Shank, Margarita Shore, Casey Sieber, Sarah Urizar- Smith, Kim Smith, Dan Stewart, DJ Swindell, Anne Marie Totorica, Ron Totorica, Chris Totorica, Jeff M Uberuaga, Martin Uruburu, Andrea Epeldi- Vietri, Thomas G Walker, Jessica Welsh, Miren Yows, Philip J Yribar, Luis Ysursa, Rita Zabala, Kepa Zubizarreta

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Ben Miller


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To contact the entire board (10 directors), send an email to board@basquecenter.com.

BASQUE CENTER RENTAL

To inquire about renting the Basque Center for a function or meeting, please contact Albert Totorica, Basque Center Rental Manager, at rentals@basquecenter.com, visit www.basquecenter.com/rentals, or call 208-331-5097. Euzkaldunak members receive discounted rental rates.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

If you have information that you would like to include in the next newsletter, please send your submission to newsletter@basquecenter.com by **Monday, October 11**. For mailing address changes, contact Patty Gabica at secretary@basquecenter.com.

2021 EUZKALDUNAK EVENTS

(all events pending COVID-19 and national and local health regulations)

10/16/21 – October Dinner (*curbside pickup*)
 11/06/21 – November Morzilla Dinner
 11/13/21 – International Muz Tournament
 (*Txoko Ona in Homedale*)

12/05/21 – Children's Christmas Party
 12/18/21 – December Dinner & Shepherders Ball
 1/29/22 – Annual Membership Meeting