



# EUZKALDUNAK

2022

## URTARRILA

## JANUARY

Monthly Member Newsletter

### EUZKALDUNAK BOARD ELECTIONS

This year we have seven candidates for five positions and an alternate for the Board of Directors. You can read about each candidate in the bios section on the next page of this newsletter.

Since ***we will not be holding an in-person annual meeting***, the board has decided to run elections through an online service called Election Buddy. The elections for the Board of Directors will begin on January 24 and end on February 12. Members will receive a voting notice via email, text messaging, or mail, depending on what is listed with your membership. ***It is very important that you provide a valid email, text, and/or mailing address during your 2022 membership renewal*** so we can ensure every eligible member has the opportunity to cast a vote.

For those households who have the same email address for more than one member, please ensure the additional members in the household have another form of contact to receive the 2022 election ballots. If you're unsure what you have on file, please email [secretary@basquecenter.com](mailto:secretary@basquecenter.com). For members who do not have email or a cell phone attached with their membership, they will receive a mailed ballot which will have a reference code for the member to vote online or mail or drop off the ballot to the Basque Center.


Please have patience with the board during this process; we are working our best to make it easy on all members while being able to continue with our normal business operations of our annual elections.

### REMINDER: MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you haven't yet renewed your Euzkaldunak membership, please do so by January 15, 2022, to avoid letting your membership lapse. During the renewal process, we respectfully ask that you update your home address, phone, and email, as well as your preference in how you wish to receive your newsletter and/or any memberships you are renewing on behalf of others.

You can pay your membership dues by mailing in a check with the renewal form, dropping off a check and renewal form at the Basque Center, or online with a credit card by visiting [basquecenter.com/membership-renewal](http://basquecenter.com/membership-renewal). If any issues arise using the online payment, please email [secretary@basquecenter.com](mailto:secretary@basquecenter.com) as soon as possible so we are able to identify and rectify the issue.

For new memberships, please contact [secretary@basquecenter.com](mailto:secretary@basquecenter.com). A new member is defined as any individual who has never been a member or who was a member previously but let their membership lapse.



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## MEET THE CANDIDATES

There are 6 Board of Director terms expiring at the end of January 2022. Five directors are at the end of their 2-year terms, and the alternate is at the end of their 1-year term. Here are short bios of the 7 candidates so you can get to know them better and cast a more informed vote.



### **Todor Azurtza (Incumbent)**

I am Todor Azurtza Sorrondegi, a Basque in the Diaspora. I was born in Caracas, raised in Donostia, lived in London, Paris, then New York, and finally Boise. I have been an Euzkaldunak member since 2016 and have served as a board member these last two

years. I am committed to preserving and perpetuating our Basque culture and identity, hence my involvement in many cultural activities in our community, such as teaching Euskara, teaching and promoting pilota, supporting traditions such as Santa Agueda or bertsolaritza, Kantari Eguna, Diaspora Day, Euskararen Eguna... all amalgamated by the curiosity and dedication of a deep euskaltzale militancy. I would like to serve as an Euzkaldunak Board member for another term, contributing to our organization with a rich personal and professional background, a complementary skill set, interests and languages, and a different perspective on topics.

*Gure Euskal Etxeko zuzendaritzako kide edo "board member" bezala beste bi urtez zuen zerbitzura egin nahi nuke lan, gure euskal kultura, ohiturak eta hizkuntza Boisen bizirik mantentzen laguntzen.*



### **Gina (Anchustegui) Gridley**

I have been involved with Euzkaldunak since I can remember. When I was a child, we would carpool from Mountain Home for Basque dancing. Another generation later... my daughters are participating in Boiseko and next year Oinkaris.

I have served on the board for Euskal Lagunak in Mountain Home. I was a NABO representative there and participated in the Basque World Congress. We coordinated the first Mus workshop and 10 years later the club is still offering an annual Mus tournament. I have written several Basque Government grants that have helped the organization move closer to its goal of a renovated clubhouse. I have also served on the school advisory board for St. Joseph's. I was the board representative for the building and grounds committee and was involved in many phases of the million dollar playground project, from interviewing contractors to soliciting the capital campaign.

I would bring to the table practical experience in project managing, event planning, fundraising, and grant writing. But most importantly, I bring passion. I LOVE our Basque culture! The language, food, dances, games ... there are so many ways to express Basque pride. I would appreciate your vote as I look forward to the opportunity of working with the Euzkaldunak board members and having a successful year of encouraging Basque culture. Eskerrik asko!



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**Erik McFarland 208-884-0142**



**Danielle Coyle**

Thanks to everyone for considering me for a Board Member position. I am excited and hopeful for the opportunity to bring in some fresh ideas and help with continuing traditions wherever I can. My story with the Basque community began in the Spring of 2009 when I studied abroad in

Bilbao for 6 months. I honestly knew nothing about the Basque culture prior to my trip and I certainly didn't know that in the following years, I would marry into the most incredible Basque family! Three daughters later, our oldest is now at Ikastola and is involved with Basque dancing as well. Her recent involvement in all things Basque is what ultimately led me to take the leap and try for this position. With that, I am new but motivated to be a part of a cause that will also directly impact my kids throughout their childhood.

As a stay-at-home mom, I'm always looking for ways that I can be a part of the community, particularly something that is as welcoming to me as it is to my children. We are a team, and it's because of them and their heritage that I feel like this is a perfect opportunity to be a part of something I am passionate about. I would love to be a member on the Board so I can help in any and all capacities – whether that be to bring new ideas to the table, be a sounding board or simply be a body for events. I'll be there. The Basque community means so much to me and my family – I would be honored to be a part of what keeps it alive in our city today.



**Isana Urquidi (Incumbent)**

Hello! My name is Isana Urquidi and I'm running for the Euzkaldunak Board of Directors. I was on it the last 2 years and have had the opportunity to learn a lot, but I'd love to be on the board in years where we get to host our normal events once

again. I have been involved in the community as a part of Boise'ko, Txan Txan, and the Oinkaris; but being on this board is a unique opportunity because it brings all of the individual groups together. I enjoy planning events and am a very organized person which I feel are two traits that are helpful on this board. Plus I love this community and really care about preserving it and putting in the work to make that happen.



**Christina Gamboa**

I am originally from Boise and a longtime member of the Basque community. I participated in Boiseko Gazteak during my elementary school years and was a member of the Oinkari Dantza Taldea from 2000 to 2005. I graduated from Bishop

Kelly High School and Gonzaga University, and completed medical school at the University of Washington. I later finished my residency training at the University of Oklahoma in 2018 and shortly thereafter, returned to Boise to join my father, John Gamboa, in private practice. I have been eager to become involved again with the Basque community and am passionate about preserving the Basque heritage and culture.

I feel my previous involvement as an Oinkari and volunteer at Basque events has provided me the experience necessary to assist with organizing Euzkaldunak activities and gatherings. Additionally, I believe my medical background may prove helpful in assisting the Basque community navigate the current pandemic situation.

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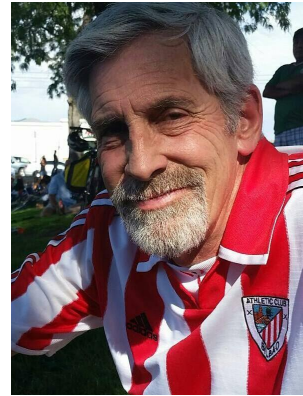


**Joseba Criswell**

Hello All. My name is Joseba Criswell, I am 25 years old, and I am originally from Winnemucca, Nevada. I moved to Boise permanently a few years ago after graduating from college in California, but I have been around the

Boise Basque community my entire life. I currently work as an engineer in Boise and have been a member of Euzkaldunak since my time back in Winnemucca.

I believe I can bring a unique perspective to the board in the sense that I am a younger member of the Basque community in Boise that was never involved in Boise Basque dancing. I think it is valuable to the board and Boise Basque community to have a viewpoint from someone originally outside of Boise whose only goal is to support, protect, and expand the Basque community in Boise so that future generations of Basques and non-Basques alike continue to enjoy what those have already put in so much effort to build. I also have a strong connection and relationship with the Basque Country and try to visit every 2-3 years. I believe strongly in preserving tradition while also understanding the need to evolve and be flexible. I do not think these concepts are mutually exclusive. Youth and community involvement is extremely important to me, and I think I can provide a viewpoint that focuses on preserving traditional customs while also recognizing progress is key for the long-term viability of the community. I appreciate your consideration and I look forward to continuing my involvement with the Basque community of Boise.



**Mike Franzoia (Incumbent)**

Kaixo! I am Mike Franzoia and I am running for re-election as a Board Member of the Basque Foundation, Inc., (the Basque Center). I am married with four adult children, of which 3 are living in Boise and active in several

programs supported by the Basque Center. I was a businessman for 30 plus years in the restaurant and fuel service industry, now retired. I also was Mayor of Elko, Nevada for 16 years (4 terms), and oversaw annual budgets and several types of Enterprise Funds between \$18 - 28 million dollars. I bring to the Board these experiences and the time necessary to fulfill its duties.

We have traveled to the Basque Country many times over the last 38 years, I love everything Basque!!

Thank you for all your support. Eskerrik Asko!

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## **BOISEKO & OLENTZERO THANK YOU'S**

The dancers did a great job at the Winter Show performance on December 5! Thanks for the support from all the families and friends in the audience. The lively outdoor atmosphere was amazing!

We couldn't have done it without all the massive help we received during the fall season and on the day of the performance. Thanks to Rod Wray for supplying and setting up the sound equipment, to Chris Bieter for being emcee, and to Txantxangorriak for their opening set.



Thanks to all the teachers and musicians that worked hard throughout the fall - it paid off in the end! We also appreciate the Oinkaris for their chorizo prep, all the parent volunteers that helped to bring out chairs, distribute the chorizos, and collect the canned donations for the food bank. Thanks to the local businesses (Leku Ona, The Basque Market, and Bardenay) for loaning us the propane heaters, and to Brandy Bengoechea and David Breshears of Meadow Gold Dairy for their donation of milk and chocolate milk.



Lastly, we thank the Euzkaldunak Board of Directors and staff for helping us close the street, providing the chorizos, and arranging the surprise visit from Mateo "Olentzero" Franzoia!

Practice will resume for the spring season on January 11, 2022. More details to follow.



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## **2022 MUS TOURNAMENTS**

### ***2022 8-King Euzkaldunak Tournament schedule***

1/9/2022 at 3:30 PM  
1/16/2022 at 3:30 PM  
1/23/2022 at 3:30 PM  
1/30/2022 at 3:30 PM  
2/6/2022 at 3:30 PM

### ***2022 NABO Qualifier Tournaments***

2/12/22 Boise  
2/20/22 Homedale  
4/24/22 Basque Museum  
4/30/22 Santa Rosa (Paradise Valley, NV)

The qualifier tournaments for Mountain Home and Goodingclubs are still TBD and will be announced as soon as dates have been set.

## **EUZKALDUNAK PHOTOS WANTED**

We know you use your cell phones to take a lot of pictures, but have you thought about sharing those pictures with future generations? We have a large collection of historical pictures (San Inazio, Oinkari dancing, Morzilla making, Mus Dinner, etc.) from past eras, but will our children have pictures of this era? Do you have photos from past Euzkaldunak events?

We are interested in any pictures that capture our rich history. They can include photos from local events like Jaialdi, San Inazio, Shepherders Ball, monthly dinners, etc., or anything that involves our member activities like Boiseko Gazteak, Txantxangorriak, Aiztan Artean, Biotzetik, or Oinkari Dancers. Historical photos of the Basque Center facility are always appreciated as well. Your submissions will be digitally scanned, archived and placed on the website. If you have photos to share, please contact Ed Orbea at [photos@basquecenter.com](mailto:photos@basquecenter.com).

## **ADVERTISING**

Do you own or work for a company that would be interested in advertising in our newsletter? Our newsletter goes out to over 1000 members monthly. For information, please contact [secretary@basquecenter.com](mailto:secretary@basquecenter.com).


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## History Corner: Boiseko Gazteak (part 2)

Since Boiseko Gazteak is such a big part of our Boise Basque History, we will be taking more than one issue to report on this rich cultural tradition. Last month, we wrote an overview of the organization and how each age group is organized. This month, we'll hear from Boiseko Gazteak alumni about their experience as dancers, and then coming back to Boiseko as teachers in adulthood.



Patxi Kerns: I used to practice every week and then get so nervous that I would go sit on Amuma's lap during the performance and watch all my friends. I eventually got over that and LOVED being an Oinkari and performing in front of big crowds. So, I connect so much with the kids who don't want to be seen!

Jaclyn Lasuen: I have such fond thoughts of my instructors and peers in Boiseko who have gone on to become some of my closest friends and mentors in Oinkaris and beyond. If it weren't for little kids' dancing, I doubt I would have been a

dancer at all, which has given me some of my warmest memories and most unique opportunities to date. *(Editor's note: Jaclyn carpoled with other dancers from Mountain Home every Tuesday during her time at Boiseko, and is now also the Oinkari Women's Dance Director. We love to see full circle Basque dance journeys!)*



Isana Urquidi: I danced in Boiseko from Txikis through Nagusiak. I had many teachers through the years that were family members such as Autumn Laidlaw and my own mom. It is great that I get to follow in their footsteps and teach the next generation. One distinct memory is that after practice if we were good and listened to the teachers we got to go to the bar and have an Orangina or Shirley Temple.

Johnny Aldape: I did not particularly like going to "Little Kids" practice, because The A-Team aired Tuesdays on TV at the same time. We would usually stop by Amuma & Papa's house

(Lydia and Louie Jausoro) either before or after practice, and they were good about bribing my sister Jill and me with money or toys to keep us interested in dancing. I now appreciate how important Boiseko Gazteak was in my life, as it led me to join Oinkaris, which came with so many amazing opportunities and meeting lifetime friends. I hope that our work today will lead to the same awesome experiences for my own children and all the other young dancers.

*History Corner is a featured column in the Euzkaldunak newsletter that is written by members of the Basque Center Renovation Committee. Our 7-decade old building is aging and needs our enthusiasm and support to carry our traditions forward for the next 7 decades and beyond. The goals of the History Corner column are: 1) highlight the many beloved traditions we can carry out thanks to having access to a Basque Center, and 2) educate members about our rich Boise Basque history.*

## **NEW EUZKALDUNAK MEMBERS**

Danielle Coyle  
Alise Hulford  
Mike Marticorena  
Jacqueline Giuliacci  
Dolores "Jean" Cottier  
Katie Miller  
Brenden Fitzgerald  
Mason Monasterio

## **GENERAL EUZKALDUNAK DONATIONS**

Donations to the Basque Center can be made all year on our website. You can donate in memory or honor of someone, earmark your donation for the Basque Center facility, or just make a general donation. Go to the website and click on the "Donation" tab. It's that simple! Basque Foundation, Inc. is a 501 c3 non-profit company. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

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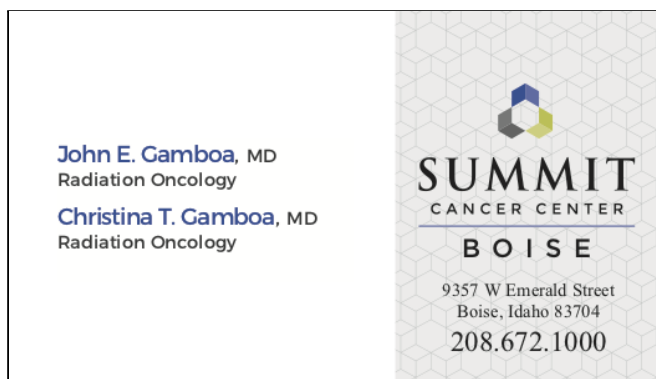
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## **GOIAN BEGO ~ REST IN PEACE**

Each month, we list the names of recently passed members of Euzkaldunak and the local Basque community. Please send us the names of these recently deceased folks so we can honor them in print.

### ***Goian Bego:***

Enrique Goitiandia  
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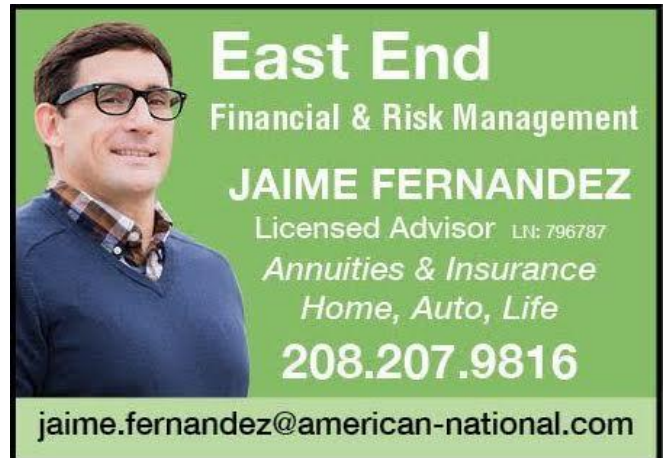
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## **OINKARI MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

The Oinkari Basque Dancers greatly appreciate the recent donations made in memory of beloved members of the Basque community. Memorial gifts to Oinkari help fund costumes, equipment, travel expenses, and Basque cultural education for current and future generations of Oinkari dancers.

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## BOISE FRONTON ASSOCIATION

The Boise Fronton Association's Baleen and Pala leagues ended the fall 2021 season, with 20 teams participating and the finals held on December 18.

**Baleen** winners were Alaina Gavica & Joana Tolaretxipi, with Anne-Marie DeCouto-Mansidor & Geneva Ayarra taking 2nd place. **Pala B League** winners were Geneva Ayarra & Todor Azurtza, with Alex McKinley & Aaron vonLindern taking 2nd place. **Pala A League** winners were Andrew Miller & Caleb Snodgrass, with Lukas Miller & Ben Donahue taking 2nd place.

Spring season will start on February 7, 2022, with finals set for May 7. Please email [boisefronton@gmail.com](mailto:boisefronton@gmail.com) if you would like to play next season. Besides the adult leagues, the Boise Pilota Eskola has been teaching pilota to children every Monday. They will start again in February as well. If your child is interested in playing, contact [pilota.eskola.boise@gmail.com](mailto:pilota.eskola.boise@gmail.com).

## JANUARY ZORIONAK

Want your birthday to show up on this monthly list? please email [secretary@basquecenter.com](mailto:secretary@basquecenter.com) so it can be added to the member database.

## **Euzkaldunak member birthdays:**

Jill Aldape, Diana Aldape-Berggren, Regina Aldecoa, Rick Allington, Elisabet Amuchastegui, Campbell Julian Andrews, Miren Anton, Teresa Aramburu, Ardina Areitio, Sean Aucutt, Andi Basterrechea, Antonio Basterrechea, Christine Bender, Maite Bengoa, Shane Bengoechea, Toni Berria, Toni Bicandi, Alex Laurenz- Bieter, Bonnie Bilbao, Julie Bilbao, Lydia Black, Angeles Bork, Jillian Boyd, James Boyd, Barry Bumgarner, Esther Ciganda, Joseba Criswell, Jean Dalia, Jr., Mara Davis, Zach Echevarria, Sergio Gabicagogeascoa, Robbie Gary, Douglas Gavica, Jan Gaythwaite, Rick Goodson, Charlie Griggs, III, Lisa Guerricabeitia, Gayle Hatch, Elisa Knox, Yasone Lejardi Krakau, Ramona Larrea, Fulgencio "Phil" Legarreta, Simon Lete, Mark Lliteras, Shannon Luckie, PJ Mansidor, Jim Mendiguren, Thomas Mendiola, Anne Miller, Terry J Miller, Frank Muguira, Luke Murgoitio, Maria Neira, Carly Opheim, Nicole Pape, Christina Eiguren Rhoades, Dave Salove, Erica Saxton, Marianne Schaffeld, Dan Scott, Olaia Shank, Connie Amorebieta Smith, Tyler Smith, Robert Totorica, Christina Totorica, Salle C Uberuaga, Blas Uberuaga, Teresa Uberuaga, Damiana Uberuaga-Rogers, Isana Urquidi, Kaiet Ysursa, Rick Yzaguirre, Tom L Zabala

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Tim T. Gibson  
Consultant

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## **2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ed Orbea, President  
Alicia Knox, Vice-President  
Todor Azurtza, Director  
Martin Bilbao, Director  
Johnny Boyd, Director  
Ryan Boyd, Director  
Mike Franzoia, Director  
Tyler Smith, Director  
Isana Urquidi, Director  
Ricardo Yanci, Director

## **BASQUE CENTER STAFF**

Patty Gabica, Secretary and Treasurer  
Julian Lete, Operations Manager  
Albert Totorica, Rental Manager  
Sean Aucutt, Bartender  
Jesus Alcelay, Chef

## **N.A.B.O. DELEGATE**

Argia Beristain

*To contact the entire board (10 directors), send an email to [board@basquecenter.com](mailto: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](mailto:rentals@basquecenter.com), visit [www.basquecenter.com/rentals](http://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](mailto:newsletter@basquecenter.com) by **Monday, January 17**. For mailing address changes, contact Patty Gabica at [secretary@basquecenter.com](mailto:secretary@basquecenter.com).

## **2022 EUZKALDUNAK EVENTS**

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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1/9–2/6:</b> Euzkaldunak 8-King Mus Tournament (5 Sundays)      | <b>4/23:</b> Anniversary Dinner                 |
| <b>1/29:</b> Annual Membership Meeting & Elections (online + mail) | <b>5/14:</b> Mother's Day Dinner                |
| <b>2/12:</b> NABO 4-Kings Mus Tournament                           | <b>6/18–6/19:</b> NABO Mus Finals               |
| <b>2/19:</b> Valentine's/Oinkari Bingo Dinner                      | <b>9/17:</b> September Dinner                   |
| <b>3/5:</b> Oinkari Sagardotegi                                    | <b>10/9–10/15:</b> International Mus Tournament |
| <b>3/6, 3/13:</b> Briska Lessons (2 Sundays)                       | <b>10/15:</b> October Dinner                    |
| <b>3/19:</b> Mus Dinner  | <b>11/5:</b> Morzilla Dinner/Bazaar/Bingo       |
| <b>3/20, 4/2,</b> Euzkaldunak Briska Tournament (3 Sundays)        | <b>12/17:</b> Shepherders Ball                  |
| <b>4/10:</b>   |   |