

FROM THE KITCHEN

The December Sheepherders Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 17, 2022, as part of the 93rd annual Sheepherders Ball. The dinner will be hosted by the Boise United Rugby Club. We will begin seating everyone downstairs at 6:30 PM.

The cost of the meal (for those 13 and up) is \$25, which includes admission to the Oinkari performance and the Sheepherders Ball. The dinner price for children 12 years and younger is \$10.

December 2022 dinner menu

Ensaladilla Rusa Alaskan Cod in Onati Cream Sauce New York Strip Loin with Green Peppercorn Sauce Potatoes in Salsa Verde Desserts Homemade Bread and Butter Wine and Coffee

To make your reservation, please use the link at <u>basquecenter.com/sheepherders-dinner</u>. If you are unable to make your reservation online, please call in or text your reservation to (208) 572-0604. As seating is limited, it is important to book your reservation early. Seats will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis.

There will be NO babysitting for this dinner due to the fact that the dinner will be in the basement. The basement dining area limits the number of guests for the dinner to 215 people.

SHEEPHERDERS BALL – DECEMBER 17

The 2022 Sheepherders Ball celebration and fundraiser will take place on Saturday, December 17. We will have our December Holiday Dinner prior to the dance, and your admission to the dinner will allow you to stay for the dance.

We hope everyone stays to enjoy the music, do a little dancing, and watch the Oinkari Basque Dancers, as this is the debut for their new dancers. Oinkari will perform at 8:00 PM, followed by the lamb auction which raises funds for the Basque charities account. The dance, featuring Amuma Says No, will begin after the lamb auction. The cost for the dance is \$5 for those 13 and older. It is free to those 12 and under. Chorizos and pop will be sold if you are still hungry after dinner.

SHEEPHERDERS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are interested in volunteering for Sheepherders or are a **Boiseko parent that needs to fulfill your volunteer hours requirement for the year**, we need volunteers to help make the December dinner and Sheepherders Ball a success! Please <u>click this</u> <u>link to sign up</u>, or alternatively visit <u>basquecenter.com/volunteer</u> and scroll down to the "2022 Sheepherder's Ball" volunteer signup link. There are several shifts and times available. We couldn't make our best member traditions happen without volunteers!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

All Euzkaldunak memberships will expire on December 31, 2022, and now is the time to renew for 2023! This is also your chance to update your records in the membership database to ensure you receive member updates accurately. During the renewal process, we respectfully ask that you update your:

- home address
- phone number
- email address
- preference of receiving newsletters via email vs postal mail
- information about any memberships you are renewing on behalf of others.

Please remit dues by January 15, 2023. You can mail a check or money order to the Basque Center at 601 W Grove St, Boise, ID 83702 or drop dues off in the bar. Due to some processing issues, we are not accepting online payments this year. If you need to pay by card or for new memberships, please contact <u>secretary@basquecenter.com</u>.

Renewal dues are \$50 per person, and new member dues are \$60 per person. 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.

Remember: memberships make great

Christmas gifts! As a reminder, only those who have paid their 2023 dues will receive the financial report and voting ballots in January.



EGUBERRIKO AZOKA - BASQUE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Join us on the Basque Block on Sunday, December 4 from 11AM–4PM, for our first annual Eguberriko Azoka, or Basque Christmas Market. There will be food and drink, vendors from near and far, and activities for the kids. This event is a collaboration between the Basque Museum and Euzkaldunak in conjunction with Txantxangorriak and Boiseko Gazteak's Winter Performance.

The Azoka will take place before, during, and after the performances. There will be a Christmas photo booth starting at 2:30 PM where kids will have a chance to get photographed with Olentzero on a sheep wagon. For more information, please contact Edurne Arostegui (edurnea@basquemuseum.eus).



MORZILLA DINNER & BAZAAR THANK YOUS

The Basque Center would like to extend a sincere Eskerrik Asko (Thank You) to all the individuals and organizations that made donations to our 2022 Bingo & Bazaar event. We had a very successful turnout with all tables filled. All attendees had a great time with friends, family and new acquaintances. A special Eskerrik Asko to Michael Lejardi for the bingo calling.

Dinner Volunteers

Txan Txan members and families Alenna Knox Christina Gamboa **Christopher Irwin** Gina Gridley Heather Totoricaguena Ian Knox James Sangroniz Jenn Boyd Jenny Aldape Jimmy Aldape

John Aldape Johnny Aldape Karen Zuloeta Linda Fischer Magnus Bell Mark Uranga Max Bell Mercedes Zuloeta Nella Zuloeta **Omar Zuloeta** Walker Ybarrondo

Mike Amestoy

Pat Muelmann

Teresa Franzoia

Scott Kaltenecker

Steve Achabal

Nic Miller

Patty Miller

Upstairs Food Sellers

Alex Goyhenetche Amaya Herrera Hanna Hall Joe Muelmann Justin Benson Madalen Bieter

50/50 Raffle

Breken Frank Carmen Achabal

Baked Goods Donors

Andrea Krueger Carmen Totorica **Christina Rhoades** Diana Echeverria Joni Krakau Josu Bieter

Juliana Aldape Luisa Bilbao Madalen Bieter Miren Artiach Toni Lawson

Oinkari Cake Wheel Donors

Alaia Campbell Alazne Campbell Alex Hicks Alex Wray Alexa Forsmann Alexandra Zuloeta Isana & Ben Bengoetxea Jaclyn Lasuen Jeannene Boyd Jill Kallenecker Joni Krakau Josephine Aldape

Amaia Clayton Amaya Fischer Amaya Herrera Andrea Krueger Ava Achabal **Breken Frank** Brenna Garro Carter Lauer Christina Rhoades Damiana Shank **Dominic Fischer** Erick Baker Evan Lauer Ewing Family Gaizka Malone Ilan Shank Inaki Beristain Dougherty Veronica Bolles

Josu Bieter Juliana Aldape Justen Benson Lilian Papapietro M. Anderson Madalen Bieter Maite Frank Michael Lejardi Mikel Sangroniz Mitch Murgoitio Molly Mai Olive Boyd Patty Gabica **Ruth Manthey-Wray** Scott Kattenecker Teagan Phay



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MORZILLA THANK YOUS (cont'd)

Bingo Donors

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Oinkari Bingo Helpers

Alexandra Zuloeta Ben Bengoetxea Erick Baker Inaki Beristain Dougherty Isana Bengoetxea

Morzilla Making Crew

Amber Hedjazi Andrea Krueger Goyenetche Annie Gavica Ardina Areitio Bernice Madariaga Brian Day Celeste Landa Christy Echeverria **Dolores Totorica** Ed Orbea Fermin Bilbao Frank Muguira German Ibaseta Haritz Maillo Elorza Janice Mainvil Javier Guerricabetia Jerry Aldape John Boyd John Wilson Johnny Aldape Joseph Fitzgerald Josh Uriarte Juanita Lolly Juliana Aldape Kaiet Areitio Lino Zabala

Jacyln Lasuen Javi Ochoa Reparaz Jill Kaltenecker Mateo Franzoia Michael Lejardi

Lori Shandro Louie Uranga Mackay Fitzgerald Marie Dav Martin Bilbao Mike Amestov Mike Franzoia Mike Landa Mikel Amuchastegui Miren Maguregui Miren Urresti Laughrin Niko Lostra Ramon Goitiandia **Richard Gavica** Rod Wrav **Rosemary Izaguirre** Sandy Boyd Bishop Santi Areitio Sean Aucutt Steve Achabal Steve Mendive Susan Gavica Tere Achabal Tim Mitchell Tyler Smith Victoria Urresti Xanti Alcelay



BOISEKO GAZTEAK

Txantxangorriak & Boiseko Gazteak Winter Show

Mark your calendars for the Winter Show on Sunday, December 4. Once again this year, we're going to hold the performance outside on the Basque Block! Dancers & Musicians should arrive in costume at 12:15 PM. Txantxangorriak will start the performance off at 12:30 PM, with the dancers following at 1:00 PM. Mark your calendars and tell your family and friends. Please bring a can of food for our seasonal contribution to a local food bank. Don't forget to dress for the weather!

Udaleku 2023 - July 20-28 - Boise, ID

It's official - Boise will host Udaleku next summer! Udaleku is NABO's Basque Culture Summer Camp for kids aged 10-15 years old. (Local attendees can be younger than 10 based on available space.) The camp's success will depend on Boise families hosting Basque kids from out of town, so please consider opening your home to other campers! If you are interested in helping with camper lodging, please fill out the following Google form to express your interest and provide the board with feedback:

https://forms.gle/9iQcBw4MCYiUyzTN8

General information about Udaleku can be found here: <u>nabasque.eus/udaleku.html</u>

Boiseko 2022-2023 Calendar:

- 12/04 Winter Show (Basque Block)
- 12/17 Sheepherders Ball (Basque Center)
- 01/10 Practice resumes at 7PM (each Tuesday until March 7)
- 03/12 Spring Show (Basque Block)
- 07/18 San Inazio practice at 7PM
- o 07/20-28 Udaleku 2023
- 07/29 San Inazio performance at 11AM (Basque Block)







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BasqueStudies.BoiseState.edu



Mark Bieter, Attorney

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SHEEPHERDERS BALL & BASQUE FOUNDATION CHARITIES SELECTS PRIMARY RECIPIENT

After two years of being unable to host our traditional Sheepherders Ball, we are excited to resume our traditions. As you may know, the Sheepherders Ball and Lamb Auction is the primary source of funding for the Basque Foundation's charity account. The first Sheepherders Ball was held in 1929 after John Archabal convinced two Basque men's organizations to combine their annual Christmas dances into one unified event. The idea was to have an annual dance for Basques, and in 1974 the Sheepherders ball was open to the public. Basil and Dorothy Bicandi Aldecoa donated a lamb for the annual lamb auction for charity. The Basque Foundation Charities has benefited ever since from the Sheepherders Ball and Lamb Auction. This annual event is a great opportunity to help the Basque community support families in need. The majority of funds raised from the Sheepherders Ball is reserved for a primary beneficiary each year, while the remainder is shared amongst others in need. This year's primary recipient is Angie Dennis. Angie is the mother of two, Chloe and Paytan Dennis, who are members of Euzkaldunak (The Basque Foundation).



In June of 2021, Angie, who is 48 years old, was having abdominal pain and went to seek medical treatment. There was a large mass found in her liver that was likely cancerous. Further testing revealed it was a rare liver cancer and she was referred to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. In September of 2021 she underwent complete surgical resection/removal of the tumor and was officially diagnosed with Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma which is a very rare bile duct liver cancer. There are about 8,000 new cases a year for the US population and it is found in .7 people per 100,000. Angie began chemo shortly after to help ensure it wouldn't spread further; unfortunately, the cancer

returned six months later in March of 2022 and was classified as stage 4 in June of 2022. They have tried chemo again with no luck and it has continued to spread.

Due to the rarity of the cancer, there is uncertainty in treatment. Additionally due to her inability to meet the hourly requirement at her job, she lost her health insurance benefits in September and is now paying out of pocket to keep her health insurance to cover the cost of treatment with hopes to prolong her time. Since the nature of the cancer is so rare, she has also had to face the challenge of traveling every 9-12 weeks to Mayo clinic which adds on the cost of airfare, hotels, and transportation for her and the family member accompanying her, on top of paying for insurance, medical bills, treatment, and prescriptions while being out

of work. To add to the financial stress Angie has applied for disability but has yet to receive it. This has been financially and emotionally draining for her and her family. The hope is she is now on a recently approved targeted treatment option with the potential to slow the spread of the cancer and growth of the tumors.

With your help and support, we can make this year's auction one of the best to help Angie and her family through this difficult year. Donations are tax deductible and can be made via the following methods:

- 1. Go to the Sheepherders donation website to make a donation via credit card: <u>basquecenter.com/sheepherders-ball</u>
- 2. Drop off a donation at the Basque Center.
- 3. Send a check to Basque Foundation, Inc., Attn: Sheepherders Ball, 601 W Grove St, Boise, ID 83702



EUZKALDUNAK WANTS YOU!

The directors of Basque Foundation Inc. are eager to recruit people with fresh ideas and perspectives.

The Basque Center is one of the most significant presences in maintaining Basque culture and identity in all of Idaho. For more than 70 years generations of Basques have preserved their language, history, sports, dance, and music. This institution has also greatly benefited from a cadre of dreamers and doers (Boise Basques: Dreamers & Doers, by Gloria Totoricaguena) who have unselfishly dedicated themselves to the preservation of "Basqueness."

Every year there are five (5) vacant positions up for election. All directors are elected to a two-year term. Every other year, the membership also elects the Euzkaldunak N.A.B.O. representative for a two-year term. The elections for the board of directors and N.A.B.O. rep will take place (like was done in January 2022) via an online process and the results will be announced at the annual membership meeting on Saturday, January 28, 2023.

If there are only enough candidates to fill the vacant terms, those candidates will be automatically selected for the vacant positions and there will not be a need for a formal election.

The opportunity to be a director or NABO rep is open to all members, which includes the non-Basque spouses of those with Basque Ancestry. If you are interested in learning more about the responsibilities of these positions or are interested in running, please contact Ed Orbea at president@basquecenter.com or Alicia Knox at vicepresident@basquecenter.com.

THANK YOU ADVERTISERS!

Many thanks to our 2022 advertisers for their ongoing support. We invite members to show their patronage to these supportive businesses. We are now accepting ad placements for 2023. For information about advertising in the newsletter, please contact Patty Gabica at <u>secretary@basquecenter.com</u>.





History Corner: Children's Christmas Party & Olentzero

History Corner is a featured column in the Euzkaldunak newsletter that is written by members of the **Basque Center Renovation Committee**. Our seven-decade old building is aging and needs our enthusiasm and support to carry our traditions forward for the next seven decades and beyond. The goals of the History Corner 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.

When people go to the Basque Center for the annual Christmas Party, they expect to see Olentzero—a grizzly man dressed in country farmhouse clothes, using a walking stick, carrying a bag, and smoking a pipe. He is carried into the Main Hall in a chair atop a large wooden platform that is carried by several strong men. This fun and cherished tradition has changed throughout the years. In fact, it was only until 1998 that the central figure at the Party was Olentzero. When the Christmas Parties started at the Basque Center in the early 1950's, it was Santa Claus who got all the attention. The party would have started as parents arrived with their children to our hall, decorated with a big tree on stage and Christmas lights everywhere. The children who were dancers (about grades 1-7) were dressed in costumes, all others in their holiday best. The dancers performed and everyone participated in singing Christmas songs (some of them in Basque). For many years, Mari Carmen Totorica directed the chorales. The lights were dimmed as Santa made his entrance. Among those who played the role of Santa were Fergie Larrondo, Louie Jausoro, Florencio Aldape, Ray Larrondo... arriving in various vehicles constructed as a sleigh, jet plane, race car, wagon. The kids eagerly waited their turn until they were called to the stage; each received a gift with their name on it, as well as a stocking that contained an orange, nuts in their shell and a candy cane. The children shared their excitement as they played with their new toys. In the '50s, parents brought "Pullman Loaves" of sandwiches or side dishes or cookies, which were shared in the basement. Variations of the party continue today. In 1998, the traditions carried on except instead of Santa, the mythical Olentzero was carried into the Hall.

Olentzero is a very interesting character—seems very kind; he usually has a jug at hand so you might question his sobriety. There are many versions of the Olentzero legend throughout Basque folklore: One description leans toward a scary mythical creature who sneaks into the houses of little boys and girls who are gluttons or who disobey and stay up too late, and he kills them. A nicer description is the Olentzero who is a hero. He risked his life to save children from a burning house, but he died from the rescue. But



fairies brought him back to life to reward him for having such a selfless heart. In this second description, Olentzero started his new life as a child abandoned in the forest. He was found by a fairy who takes him to the doorstep of an old couple who were overjoyed to welcome him into their home. The old couple raised him at their small baserri in the forest, and he lived a very happy life. When his parents passed away, Olentzero felt lonely. He curbed this loneliness by making toys and gifts at his home and then going into town and sharing his presents with the children. He was assisted in his toy making by mythical creatures named *prakagorri* (sometimes *galtzagorri*) or "red pants." The *prakagorriak* are the same fairies who brought him back to life after his heroism with the children in the burning building. The *prakagorriak* tell him that his mission is to make toys and other presents for all the children in the Basque Country who don't have parents of their own.

When Santa Claus became Olentzero at our Basque Center, Patxi Lostra stepped up to the plate as the man with smoky cheeks, a black

txapela, an old pipe, and clothes inspired by the Basque countryside. Patxi played the character for a few years; other Olentzero volunteers have been Ramon Ysursa, Aitor Amuchastegui, Sean Aucutt and Mateo Franzoia.

Several years ago, the event of Christmas Party, performances, gifts and lunch outgrew the Basque Center. Boiseko Gazteak was up to four performing groups, as determined by age. Txantxangorriak had joined the performance and had many new participants each year. So, the performance portion was moved to Borah High School. The stands were filled with parents, grandparents and friends—all had the opportunity to watch the musical performances and each of the groups of dancers. The tradition of donating canned foods was carried on here as well. The "After-Party" was the Christmas Party at the Basque Center with Olentzero and gift giving, story-telling and singing, and lunch in the basement.

The winter performance was adapted for COVID last year by being held outside on the Basque Block, and this year you will again see Txantxangorriak, Boiseko Gazteak, and Olentzero himself outside on Sunday, December 4, for a combination performance and Christmas Market on the Basque Block. Txantxangorriak will perform at 12:30, and Boiseko Gazteak begins at 1 PM.

Note: Please contact us if you can name some of our Santas or have other historical information to provide. We are grateful for the many volunteers who perpetuated so many events and are grateful for having our Basque Center. We need to step up to maintain our old building to continue our traditions.

MORZILLAK & CROQUETAS FOR SALE

Come by the Basque Center bar and pick up a bag of croquetas (made by Jesus) or a package of this year's morzillak, just in time for the holidays (or any other day!). The items are frozen so you don't have to rush home; you can stay for a drink at the Bar. Prices are \$10 for a package of 4 morzillak and \$5 for a bag of 20 croquetas.

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SAGARDOTEGI DINNER THANK YOUS

The Oinkari Basque Dancers extend a sincere thank you to Euzkaldunak, Jesus Alcelay, Aiztan Artean, and the countless donors, supporters, friends, and family that helped to make our 2022 Sagardotegi Dinner a success! Eskerrik asko to all of the attendees for a wonderful evening. We can't wait to see you again next year!



MUS AND BRISKA TOURNAMENTS

Euzkaldunak (8-Kings) Mus Tournament 2023

- Sunday Jan 8, 3:30 PM
- Sunday Jan 15, 3:30 PM
- Sunday Jan 22, 3:30 PM
- Sunday Jan 29, 3:30 PM
- Sunday Feb 5, 3:30 PM
- 8-Kings Mus Finals Saturday Mar 18, 2:00 PM

Euzkaldunak N.A.B.O. (4-KINGS) Mus Tournament 2023 :

• Saturday Feb 11, registration 8:30 AM

Euzkaldunak Briska Tournament 2023

- Sunday Mar 12, 4:30 PM
- Sunday Mar 19, 4:30 PM
- Sunday Apr 2, 4:30 PM
- Euzkaldunak Briska Tournament Finals Saturday Apr 15, 2:00 PM

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO OINKARI BASQUE DANCERS

Oinkaris appreciate these memorial gifts as they help fund our costumes, equipment and travel. Memorial gifts are graciously accepted at: **Oinkari Basque Dancers, PO Box 1011, Boise, ID 83701**. Eskerrik Asko to these supporters who made donations in memory of:

Albert Erquiaga

Ron & Diana Sabala John R & Juliana Aldape Jim & Debbie Navarro Smith

Jerry Lawson

John R & Juliana Aldape

Tom (Jausoro) Wickham

John R & Juliana Jausoro Aldape

BIOTZETIK ROTUNDA CONCERT

Biotzetik Basque Choir presents the return of its Christmas Concert in the Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 4:00 PM. The concert is free and open to the public. Come celebrate the season with traditional Basque songs and sing along Christmas carol favorites!

BASQUE CENTER BAR HOLIDAY HOURS

The Basque Center bar will have modified holiday hours to allow our staff to celebrate with their families.

- Dec 24: bar closes at 6:00 PM
- Dec 25-28: bar closed
- Dec 29-31: bar open regular hours
- $\circ~$ Jan 1-4: bar closed

The Foundation Board and Staff wish you all a Happy New Year. May it be filled with new adventures and good fortunes.

DINNER RESERVATION PROCESS

As we look to enter a new year, the Board wants to alert you to a change in the dinner reservation process. *Starting in 2023 we will no longer be able to accept dinner reservations AFTER the cutoff date/time.* As always, you will be able to make your dinner reservations by using the reservation link on the Basque Center website at <u>www.basquecenter.com</u>, or if you are unable to make your reservation online, you can call in or text your reservation to 208-572-0604.

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DECEMBER ZORIONAK

Steven Achabal, Gerri Achurra, Judy Aldape-Lemmon, Daniel Aldecoa, Lou Aldecoa, Jr, Daniel Andrews, Darla Arana-Young, Karen Arguinchona, Matias Aseguinolaza, Tracy Basterrechea, Argia Beristain, Joe Bianchini, Patrick Bidegaray, Carmen Bilbao, Megan Borkowski, Janice Boyd, Rebecca Brollier, Francie Brown, Heather Carlson, Renee Coyle, Joseba de Subijana, Shane Dennis, Holly Dominick-de Tassigny, Antton Egiguren, Miren Eiguren, Martin Espil, Sharon Florence, Susan Gamboa, Richard Gavica, Herb Krakau, Esteban Lejardi, Manu Lete, Margaret Lezamiz, Amanda Lundgren, Marie Luper, Bernice Madariaga, Samantha Mallory, Mike Marticorena, Susan Garro Meuleman, Bruce Miller, Tim Mitchell, Richard Murgoitio, Amy Owen, Bryan Powell, Chickie Schroeder, Doug Sumpter, Rosa Totoricaguena, Tom Totoricaguena, Staci Welsh, Melissa Wolfe. Additionally, due to a data import error, we missed listing the following birthdays recently! Our apologies, and happy belated birthday to: Daniela Ysursa and Josu Zubizarreta (November), Kepa Zubizarreta (October)

Editor's note: If you don't see your birthday during your birthday month and would like it to show up in the list above, please email <u>secretary@basquecenter.com</u> so your birthday can be added to our member database. Apart from the member birthday list, we still gladly accept one-time announcements like births, anniversaries, graduation, or other special recognition of members in the Zorionak section. For special announcements such as these, email <u>newsletter@basquecenter.com</u>.





1955 Broadway Avenue 208.343.4234 ikastola@basquemuseum.eus boisekoikastola.org





2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Orbea, President Alicia Knox, Vice-President Johnny Boyd, Director Ryan Boyd, Director Joseba Criswell, Director Mike Franzoia, Director Christina Gamboa, Director Gina Gridley, 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. DELEGATES

Argia Beristain (Euzkaldunak delegate) Ricardo Yanci (board delegate)

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 <u>rentals@basquecenter.com</u>, visit <u>www.basquecenter.com/rentals</u>, or call 208-331-5097. Euzkaldunak members receive discounted rental rates.



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Our newsletter is composed of submissions from our Basque Center membership, and we want to hear from you! Send your news to <u>newsletter@basquecenter.com</u> by **Monday, December 19,** to appear in the next newsletter. For mailing address changes, contact Patty Gabica at <u>secretary@basquecenter.com</u>.