



NMEE CLUB NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 1

Otsaila (February) 2011

NeW MeXico EUSKAL ETXeA
BAsque CLUB OF NeW MeXICO
MeXICO BERRIKO EUSKAL ETXeA
CLUB VASCO De NDeVO MeXICO
Le CLUB BASQUE De NOUVEAU MeXique

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kaixo!

Another year has begun and a new crew is at the helm of NMEE. I'm honored to be serving as president once again, and look forward to another great year of celebrating and promoting the Basque culture in New Mexico. In addition to our annual picnic, to be held in late summer, we expect our usual slate of potlucks, and we will keep our eye out for any and all opportunities to bring Basque culture to the area.

At the same time, it seems clear that the club needs to focus a bit more, to recognize our limited resources, both financially but especially in terms of people, and maximize our impact without overburdening those involved. As such, the Board will be examining what we can do to best leverage those resources to maximum effect. We may be less ambitious than in the past, but we hope that those areas we do focus on are the better for it.

That said, one of the projects we will continue to promote is a history of the Basques in New Mexico. New Mexico has a rich history associated with the Basques that has yet to be documented. We would like to find a way to support a formal research project in this area and, of course, would like any suggestions anyone has.

The other big event this year is the reunion of the Isaba immigrants. Last year, they met in Isaba, Navarra, and this year the reunion will be held New Mexico. We'll keep you informed as the date approaches, but look for that in September/October 2011.

As always, we are dedicated to educating the greater New Mexico community about the role Basques have played in New Mexico history as well as promoting the Basque culture to our neighbors. We are always looking for more volunteers to help in our efforts, so if you are interested, please contact us.

Eskerrik asko eta urte berri on!

Blas Uberuaga
2011 NMEE President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Potluck, Santa Fe
Sunday, April 3
4-7pm
Hosts: Blas Uberuaga &
Lisa Van De Graaff

Summer Potluck, Santa Fe
Date TBD
Hosts: Sherry & Paul
Morrison

Basque Film
Contact Blas at
blas@buber.net or
505.670.9642 to help

Tapas in Albuquerque
Date TBD
See page 2

Picnic
Sat, Aug 20 or Sun, Aug 21
More information to come

**Isaba Immigrant
Celebration**
Sept 30 - Oct 3
See page 4

Tapas Fundraiser
June 2012
Contact Lisa Van De Graaff
at lisa@buber.net or
505.670.9474 to help

Additional event information
on www.buber.net/NMEE

ZORIONAK!

To Karen, Tim, and Nikki Squires as they welcome the newest member of their family!
Davin Fernandez Squires
Born January 6, 2011

ESLERRIK ASKO!

To the anonymous donor who brought the beautiful Basque dancing hosiery to The Spanish Table for a donation to NMEE.

To Tricia Erazo Penn for her dedicated service to NMEE on the 2010 Board. We are grateful for all her hard work and her continued efforts to celebrate and educate New Mexicans about Basque culture.

To Eva Valencia de Himmerich for agreeing to serve on the NMEE Board again in 2011. Per the process outlined in the club bylaws, Eva was appointed to the position of Honorary Board Member by the elected members of the 2011 Board.

To Lorin Erramouspe Abbey for being so influential in bringing a Basque sheep wagon to New Mexico! It is a beautiful testament to the history of Basque sheep herding in the Southwest. The wagon is at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Be a part of our effort to educate New Mexicans about their rich Basque ancestry!

You will receive a membership application in the mail or by email in the coming weeks. Please complete the necessary information and send in your dues as soon as possible!

GET INVOLVED

Have a great idea for a Basque event in New Mexico? Want to learn to cook or dance or play Mus? Have some extra time to stuff envelopes or help with a phone tree? Whatever your skills or availability, we always need more help. Please contact any member of the Board (contact information on Page 4) to get more involved in the New Mexico Euskal Etxea.



TAPAS DINNER IN ALBUQUERQUE

This year, we would like to have a tapas dinner at one of the fabulous restaurants in Albuquerque. However, we need a group of at least 20-25 people to make it worthwhile.

Please contact Sherry Morrision at 505.474.3254 or pvtortuga@hotmail.com if you would like to attend and/or help to organize this tasty excursion...



POTLUCK IN SANTA FE

Sunday, April 3, 2011, 4-7pm

Hosted by:
Blas Uberuaga and Lisa Van De Graaff
2307 Camino Artista / 505.670.9642

Bring a favorite dish or try your hand at a new Basque recipe!

HERALDRY

Spanish Trails International
2805 Agua Fria St, Santa Fe, NM 87507
www.shieldsofarms.com



Surname:

The most common surname in Spain, it is estimated that 5% of the population of Spain use García either as a given or surname. Although there are several theories about the origin of this name, the most commonly accepted is that García is a Basque-Iberian name derived from the Basque word kartzeta, which means “the bear,” with possible reference to the Ursa Minor constellation.

Heraldic Symbolism:

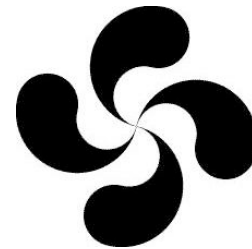
The silver shield indicated that the bearer was probably a mariner, and that he was responsible for the protection of orphans and widows. It also signified peace, purity, integrity, and obedience in faith. The black heron represented vigilance, charity, and prudence, while its bleeding breast is a symbol of self-sacrifice based on the myth that in times of famine a female heron will nourish her young by wounding her own breast in order to let them feed on her blood. The red border was a symbol of honor granted by the king of Spain as a symbol of his acknowledgment and favor to those strongest of warriors who returned victorious from battle but were ensangrentado (blood-spattered) by the blood of their enemy. It was also used to differentiate between family members who bore the same arms, (i.e. a son may have been granted a border to add to his father's arms).

BUBER-TIK

By Blas Pedro Uberuaga



More and more news is available these days about the Basque Country, especially in English. There is www.eitb.com/en/, the site of EITB, the Basque radio and television organization, as one example. But, a bit closer to home is the Astero service, done by John Yursa as part of his duties of NABO -- the National Association of Basque Organizations. As you might recall, NMEE just recently joined NABO to take advantage of the unique opportunities such membership affords us. Astero -- Basque for weekly -- is a weekly e-mail service that gives updates on a multitude of Basque topics, including news from the Basque Country, special events at Basque clubs around the country, and general information about Basque culture, such as Basque films, dance, and more. If you would like to receive e-mail alerts from Astero, just send a note to info@nabasque.org and ask to receive Astero!



BASQUE NEWS

In September 2010, ETA declared a cease-fire. On January 10, 2011 they declared that the ceasefire would be permanent and verifiable by international observers. They've previously declared permanent ceasefires that they later broke, and, as might be expected, Spanish officials are urging caution, but this is still a positive step to end the violence in the Basque Country.

THE 2011 NMEE BOARD

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blas@buber.net

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dragon1492@aol.com

NMEE Website: www.buber.net/NMEE

ISABA IMMIGRANTS' REUNION

The celebration in Isaba last July was a huge success! This year, the second half of the celebration will take place in New Mexico.

The delegation from Isaba will tour the Western United States for a week, and then they will arrive in New Mexico for four days of activities:



30 Sept (Friday) – Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

1 Oct (Saturday) - Conferences & institutional receptions at the National Hispanic Cultural Center

2 Oct (Sunday) - Visit Vaughn: Church, neighborhood abandoned, and the cemetery. Visit and lunch at Rancho emigrant's descendants, "Izabarres of origin"

3 Oct (Monday) - Tourism in New Mexico TBD (perhaps Sandia Crest, Taos Pueblo, Santa Fe, etc.)

Mark your calendars!



New Mexico Euskal Etxea
Attn: Lisa Van De Graaff
PO Box 31836
Santa Fe, NM 87594