

SEATTLE EUSKAL ETXEA OHARRAK

Postage



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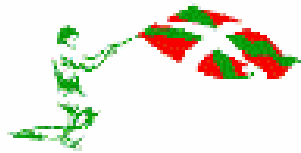
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Your 2008-2009 Seattle Euskal Etxea Officers are:

President: Danielle Bock-Martinez, president@seattleeuskal.org
Vice President: Joe Guericabeitia, vicepresident@seattleeuskal.org
Treasurer: Gaizka Mallea, treasurer@seattleeuskal.org
Secretary: Amaya Michelena, secretary@seattleeuskal.org
Board Member: Marilou Michelena, board1@seattleeuskal.org



We're on the Web!
www.seattleeuskal.org



JAIALDI 2010 –INTERNATIONAL BASQUE FESTIVAL

Jaialdi was first celebrated in 1987 as a one-time event to celebrate the old and new, local and international aspects of Basque culture. Held at the historic former Idaho State Penitentiary (now a state park), Jaialdi '87 attracted 30,000 enthusiastic visitors. The festivities included a parade, symposium, Mass, street dance, sports exhibitions, cultural performances, souvenir booths, and food and drink.

In 1990, the governor of Idaho requested that the Basque community hold another Jaialdi as part of the state's 100th anniversary celebrations. The 1990 Jaialdi took the same format, but with a few minor changes and improvements. The 1990 festival was so successful that the current every-five-years format was established. Jaialdi is always held during the last weekend of July, which coincides with the Boise Basque community's celebration saint, San Inazio de Loyola.

The goal of Jaialdi is to celebrate Basque culture through dance, song, music, education, food and more. Jaialdi is an easy word to remember and say: It describes a week of gathering and taking part in a memorable time.

Jaialdi 2010 Official Schedule of Events

July 27-28th, 5-11 pm @ Basque Block, FREE-"Welcome to Jaialdi" Featuring food, drink and strolling musicians.

July 29th, 7pm July 29 @ Qwest Arena, \$12-"Sports Night" Three weight lifters from Euskal Herria will be lifting cylinders weighing 250-400 pounds and balls weighing 250 pounds. Three wood choppers from the region will compete against each other, and 20 farm sports competitors will participate in feats of strength such as throwing bales of hay, lifting wagons and carrying milk cans.

July 30, Noon-6 pm @ Basque Block, FREE- "Basqueing on the Block," Featuring food, drink, strolling musicians.

7pm @ Morrison Center, Tickets TBD-"Festa'ra," This performance will feature two dance groups from the Basque Country, the Oinkari Basque Dancers, bertzolariak and an interpretive performance by the Trey McIntyre project.

10am-6 pm @ Fairgrounds (Expo Idaho), Tickets TBD-"Basqueing at the Fairgrounds," More than 36 dance groups from 6 Western states on 2 indoor stages. Vendors with unique novelties, souvenirs and clothing will set up shop in the air-conditioned portion of the Expo building. Food and drink will be available, along with sports events near the outdoor fountain. Sheep wagons will be on display.

July 31, 7pm @ St. John's Cathedral, FREE- San Inazio Mass in Euskara featuring the Oñati & Oinkari dancers.

9 pm-1:30 am @ Fairgrounds (Expo Idaho), Tickets TBD-Featuring music by Amuma Says No and others.

Aug 1, 11 am-5 pm @ Fairgrounds (Expo Idaho), Tickets TBD-"Basqueing at the Fairgrounds," Dancing, weight lifting, and vendors.

Adapted from: <http://jaialdi.com/wordpress/?p=75>



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OHARRAK

Winter 2009

Volume 1, Issue 3

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Inside this issue:

NABO Meeting & Olentzero	1
NABO Pilota & Mus	1
Guernica- book review with author	2
UW Language Day	2
Membership 2010	3
Spring Dinner & Elections	3
Jaialdi 2010	4

Upcoming Events:

- Guernica Book Review, January 18th @ Seattle
- Spring Dinner & Elections, March 27th @ Seattle
- UW Lang. Day, March 5th @ Seattle
- Jaialdi 2010, July 27th-31st @ Boise

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Seattle Euskal Etxea (SEE)
is a proud member of



NABO MEETING IN SEATTLE A SUCCESS



Seattle Euskal Etxea successfully hosted its first ever NABO meeting this past October. In attendance were representatives from Basque clubs from throughout the US.

Early arrivals to the Seattle area were greeted at a reception held at the Belltown flat of local SEE members Ray & Edith Azpiri. Over full glasses of red wine a bountiful spread and beautiful view were enjoyed by all attendees. Following the reception many chose to make the short walk to the local Basque pub, Txori. There delegates continued to reconnect and relax before Saturdays meeting.

Saturdays meeting begun with a light breakfast and coffee to fuel the days activities. The meeting was convened at 8am and broke for lunch around noon. Lunch included catered chicken and the culinary delights of SEE

OLENTZERO-EUSKAL HERRIKO "SANTA"

Several stories exist about the origin of Olentzero, but a common one holds that as a child he was abandoned in the woods. A fairy found him and gave him the name Olentzero, bestowed gifts of strength and kindness on him and handed him to an older childless couple living alone in the woods. He turned into a strong man and charcoal

burner, who was also good with his hands, carving wooden toys that he would carry in a big charcoal bag to give to the children of the village. It is said that he died one day saving children from a burning house and that when he died, the fairy who had found him granted him eternal life to continue to bring joy to children and peo-

ple. Adapted from:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olentzero>



member Conchita Michelena. Following lunch the meeting resumed. Although many topics were covered most notable were the agreement to the first ever increase in NABO membership dues from \$0.50 a member to \$1.00 and the external proposal to form a world federation of Basque clubs. NABO representatives were chosen to represent the organization in Argentina this past Fall.

Following a few unscheduled hours for rest and relaxation an optional dinner was held at local restaurant Bilbao. Owner/operator Juan Hontanilla and his crew kept wine flowing and created the largest paella this writer has ever seen. Throughout the meal NABO members broke out in old Basque songs and enjoyed each others company. A great time was truly had by all. Some revelers continued the party by visiting post-dinner bars in Belltown.

SEE enjoyed hosting our brothers and sisters from around the US and look forward to seeing you all soon. by: Joe M Guericabeitia



TEAM NABO FOR THE 2009 WORLD PILOTA COUNCIL TOURNAMENT

The NABO Pilota team of Esther Ciganda and Maite Iribarren-Gorrindo played hard at the 2009 World Pilota Council Tournament held in Argentina.

Ciganda and Iribarren-Gorrindo, who hail from Boise, played a tough match Thursday morning Oct. 29 against the team from Euskadi. The two NABO women gave it their best, but they ended up losing 30-5.

The NABO players began the Baleen tournament, played in a trinquet, with a morning match on Oct. 28 in Bahia Blanca, a city south-

west of Buenos Aires. Ciganda and Iribarren-Gorrindo gave a solid performance against Australia, but ended up losing 30-18. Team Euskadi, meanwhile, beat Venezuela 30-19.

Later that afternoon on Oct. 28, the NABO team faced off against a tough Venezuelan duo. The Venezuelans came out on top 30-8. Team Euskadi lost its Oct. 28 afternoon match to FEVA I by a score of 11-30.

The Paleta Goma championship, played in a 30 meter left-wall court, was held in La Plata, Argentina. The NABO team finished in sixth

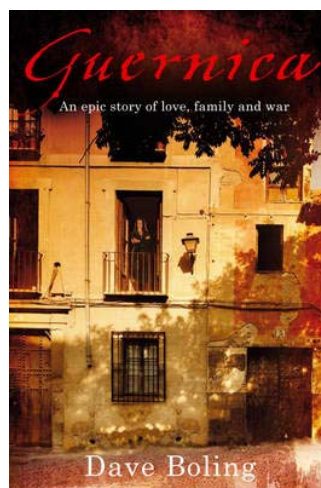
place.

Both Esther & Maite are former SEE members and Ciganda's parents out of Moses Lake continue to be SEE. Aupa Esther and Maite! NABO delegates agreed in Seattle's October meeting that a NABO flag will be created and be used at future sports events.

by: Evelyne Etcharren and added to by Danielle Bock-Grande



Esther Ciganda and Maite Iribarren-Gorrindo in blue.



GUERNICA—BOOK CLUB REVIEW

SEE member Angie Stewart's book club is reviewing *Guernica* in January. Author Dave Boling has given the group a "very strong confirmation" to attend. Seattle Euskal Etxea members have also been invited to the gathering. Currently the review is scheduled for 7:30pm, Monday, January 18 at a member's home on Mercer Island, however, if there is sufficient

interest a larger venue may be needed. Please contact Danielle before Jan. 1st at president@seattleeuskal.org if you would like to attend. Eskerrik asko!

by: Danielle Bock-Grande

From the author:

"I especially love meeting with Basques ... as you can tell by the perspective of my book, I have a soft spot for them. So, yes, invite the Basque club ... the more the merrier! Thanks so much for your interest and the invitation. It's a real privilege to get the chance to visit with readers."~Dave Boling



MUS—A GREAT GAME FOR FALL/WINTER

Mus is a distinct Basque card game that is traditionally played with the Spanish *Baraja* card deck of 40 cards. Typically played in teams of two, mus, is a bluffing and betting game in the style of poker.

Mus has four distinct betting rounds including Haundiak ("Bigs"), Txikiak ("Smalls"), Pareak ("Pairs") and Jokua ("Game"). Game play is begun by dealing 4 cards to each player, in a counterclock-wise rotation. The player to the right of the dealer, known as esku ("hand") begins by determining if they wish to discard ("mus") with the decision continuing counter-clockwise until all are in agreement or the discard has been blocked (etorri!). Betting begins with handiak (king high) and then moves to txikiak (ace low). Players are then asked to divulge if they have pairs. If two opposing players do have pairs betting begins as to who has the best pairs. After betting on pairs or if there aren't sufficient pairs to bet, players respond to the question of having jokua, which is determined by the sum of their cards being greater than 31. This completes one round of mus. Rounds are played and points tallied until a team achieves 40 pts.

SEE will be holding its annual mus tournament March 27th, in conjunction with the Spring dinner. For more information on how to play mus check out: <http://www.ontariobasqueclub.dantzariak.net/mus.htm> OR http://www.nhfournier.es/pdf/Mus_Game_rules.pdf

For NABO Tournament official mus rules see: http://www.nabasque.org/pdf/NABO_mus_rules.pdf

by: Joe M Guericabeitia

COME SEE WORLD LANGUAGES DAY AT UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

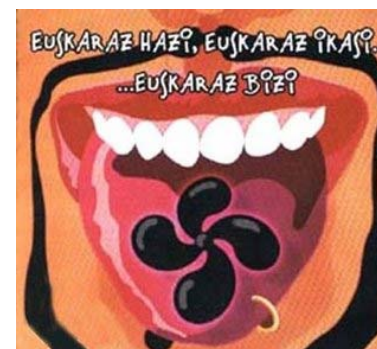
The Seattle Euskal Etxea (SEE) will participate in University of Washington's annual World Languages Day on March 5, 2010 to represent both the Basque people, and our language, Euskara.



Today's high school juniors and seniors have the opportunity and challenge of living in a world whose boundaries are becoming smaller and smaller. It has become more essential, as well as mind-opening, to learn other languages and to become familiar with the cultures of our world. Euskara is such a unique language, as is much of Basque culture, that SEE strongly feels a need to represent our culture at this event.

UW World Languages Day (WLD) presents the chance for students and teachers to participate in a unique one-day conference. The topics for presentations are diverse – in 2009 close to 200 sessions were offered from mini language workshops, to world music, dance, storytelling, and much more. WLD offers a fun and informal way to experience the diversity of the world at the UW and beyond. Participants can learn about World Languages at the UW, and have the opportunity to visit classes in different languages, sample a variety of cultures, attend presentations and activities on a variety of cultural topics, learn about careers using world languages and visit the Language Learning Center.

This is SEE's second year attending the event and we are seeking club members or friends who speak Euskara or know about the language and culture, to attend the event with us and possibly facilitate a workshop. Contact Danielle Bock at president@seattleeuskal.org for more information. Adapted from <http://www.outreach.washington.edu/k12/wld/>



SPRING DINNER/ELECTIONS—MARCH 27TH IN SEATTLE

Our Annual Spring Dinner will again be held at the beautiful PRAG House, residence to SEE member Nora Leech. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and park on street. In addition to food and drink we'll be hosting the Annual Mus Tournament, as well as Elections including a proposed revision to the SEE bylaws. Please plan accordingly if you

would like to play mus, vote, etc...
12:30pm Mus Registration (\$20 per team)
1:00 Mus Tournament
4:00 Socializing
5:00pm Elections and by-law voting.
5:30pm Dinner – Entree, bread, salad and beverages are provided. **Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.** \$20 Members, \$25

Non-members, \$40 Member-Family; \$50 Non-Member Family (12 and under free).
747 16 Ave E
Seattle, WA 98112.
 Please contact Amaya Michelen at secretary@seattleeuskal.org or 321-662-8049 to RSVP or with any questions.
 by: Amaya Michelen



PRAG HOUSE

SEATTLE EUSKAL ETXEA MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL

Once again it is that time of year to ask for your continued support and patronage of Seattle Euskal Etxea (SEE). Without your support SEE would be unable to continue to provide you with activities and forums designed to allow all of us to express, support and pass on our cultural heritage. As a relatively new SEE member (2007), from one of the larger Basque communities (Boise) I can tell you what a pleasure it has been not only to be a SEE member but to be part of the SEE board, serving as vice president. Although we are smaller Basque club many of our members are just as passionate if not more so, in sharing and spreading what makes them Basque: food, games, language, dancing, music, and a love for Euskadi and our ancestral history. All of this in place where it is much more difficult to come across a chorizo, a mus game or kalimtxo! We'd like to see more of you involved in sharing your talents not only as SEE members, but as Directors and Leadership on the Board of Directors. Only with the continued support and renewed passion of our members can we continue to succeed. Please see the membership insert to renew or become a member and contact any board member (see reverse) our visit website regarding elections.
 by: Joe M. Guericabeitia, vicepresident@seattleeuskal.org



WE WANT YOU!