



PO Box 1080 ☚ Chino, California 91710
LAGUNARTEKO BERRIPAPERA
Members' Newsletter

- President John Barcelona
 Vice-President Isidore Camou
 Treasurer JB Aguerre (c)
 Secretary / Newsletter John Ysursa
 Directors Martin Almirantearena, Bert Aphessette
 Nancy Petrisans, Nicolas Irisarri, Candida Echeverria,
 Steven Gamboa & Maite Petrisans
 Mus Chairperson J.B. Aguerre (c)
 Jr. Mus Coordinator Candida Echeverria
 Cooking Crew Isidore Camou & Steven Gamboa
 Kitchen crew contact. Maite Petrisans
 Bar crew coordinator John Barcelona
 Building Managers Joseph & Mary Almirantearena
 Outside Grounds J.B. Aguerre (g)
 Txori Ttipiak Maite Maisterrena & Isabel Irigoyen
 Euskaldun Izarrak Annette Indaburu,
 Jeanette Duhart & Angela Arrosagaray-Cossey
 Dantzari Onestak Louise Camou & Vanessa Irisarri
 Gauden Bat Jeanette Duhart
 Entertainment Candida Echeverria & John Ysursa
 NABO Representatives John Plaa & John Ysursa
 "Txoko" Cooking Club Steven Gamboa
 Klika Coordinator J.B. Aguerre (c)
 Klika Instructor Gilbert Lanathoua
 Pilota Coordinator Dominique Camou
 Pilota Instructor. Jean Michel Indaburu
 Euskara Coordinator Begona Echeverria
 Elkar Ezagutzea John Ysursa
 Youth Director / txistu instructor. Maite Maisterrena
 Ama eta Ni director Aline Anema
 Club Photographer Charlene Azkarate Perdew
 Basque Liturgies Aita Martxel Tillous
 Germaine Lanathoua & Gilbert Lanathoua

NOTE: We are a small Basque club, nevertheless we "live large" because of the contributions that are made by dedicated members who are committed to preserving our Basque heritage. Our club is always in need of volunteer help and participation. Think about it & join the team!

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 CLUBHOUSE
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**Euskaldun bizi
 nahia**
*"The will to live
 as Basque"*

APIRILA 2007 April



*This year's recipients of the
 Chino Basque Club's Lifetime Contribution award:
 J.B. & Claudia Aguerre and Carmen & Jeannot Duhart*

ETXEKO BERRIAK *Our Club News*

We had a fine event last month punctuated by our annual tribute to those who have made an extraordinary contribution to our club (pictured above). It is important that as a community we periodically pause to express our gratitude to those who have made the success of our club possible. Every year we will endeavor to recognize more and more folks, so this will be an ongoing tribute because we still have plenty of people that we'd like to thank.

This month we're getting together again, this Sunday, for our annual fundraising lunch. Now that I've mentioned a word with "fund" in it, briefly on money matters, things are going well for our club because of your ongoing generosity. You might recall that previously we had some major fundraising events that included the outdoor brick plaza and the matching fund-drive. These were initiated to help defray the costs of the newly purchased land, and we're making good progress on retiring that debt. We appreciate that always coming around asking for more money is a "turn-off" so for your information we have not slated any major fundraiser in the near future; we are hoping to make things work out with our usual fundraising efforts that include these luncheons. We hope that you can join us! This month we'll have a special treat with the "Euskaldun Izarrak" dancers (ages 7-9) performing.

The Gauden Bat Basque Dancers are grateful to the club for the use of the building for their 11th annual reverse drawing. In appreciation, the group made a donation of liquor. One of their dancers, Jacqueline Gatou-Lanathoua (pictured) was accepted into this year's Gaztemundu program. This two week program, in Euskal Herria, is available to the youth of Basque clubs around the world. This year's theme will be Basque community leaders. Zorionak-Congratulations!



Kantu Osteguna is on again next month, May 10th at 7pm: bring a song and come join us at the club for a Basque sing-along. And next month begins the festival season (some are posted below). Come help us bring April to a close this Sunday and enjoy some fine food and company. Laster arte!

 www.chinobasqueclub.us



**A Dark Day for the
Basques: Seventy years
ago this week and the
Bombing of Gernika
April 26, 1937**

It was market day in Gernika (Guernica in Spanish) when the church bells of Santa Maria sounded the alarm that afternoon in 1937. People from the surrounding hillsides crowded the town square. "Every Monday was a fair in Guernica," says José Monasterio, eyewitness to the bombing. "They attacked when there were a lot of people there. And they knew when their bombing would kill the most. When there are more people, more people would die."

For over three hours, twenty-five or more of Germany's best-equipped bombers, accompanied by at least twenty more Messerschmitt and Fiat Fighters, dumped one hundred thousand pounds of high-explosive and incendiary bombs on the village, slowly and systematically pounding it to rubble. For the attackers it was an exercise to see how much destruction and death could be brought in a few hours; Germany was preparing for a war that would soon become—World War II.

The people of Gernika that day, thus became the victims of a cruel experiment. "We were hiding in the shelters and praying. I only thought of running away, I was so scared. Eyewitness Luis Aurtenetxea continues, "I didn't think about my parents, mother, house, nothing. Just escape. Because during those three and one half hours, I thought I was going to die."



Those trying to escape were cut down by the strafing machine guns of fighter planes. "They kept just going back and forth, sometimes in a long line, sometimes in close formation. It was as if they were practicing new

moves. They must have fired thousands of bullets," noted eyewitness Juan Guezureya. The fires that engulfed the city burned for three days. Seventy percent of the town was destroyed. Sixteen hundred civilians - one third of the population - were killed or wounded.

News of the bombing spread like wildfire. The Nationalist forces of Francisco Franco immediately denied any involvement, as did the Germans. But few were fooled by Franco's protestations of innocence. In the face of international outrage at the carnage, Von Richthofen claimed publicly that the target was a bridge over the Mundaca River on the edge of town, chosen in order to cut off the fleeing Republican troops. But although the Condor Legion was made up of the best airmen and planes of Hitler's developing war machine, not a single hit was scored on the presumed target, nor on the railway station, nor on the small-arms factory nearby.

Gernika is still a cultural capital of the Basque people, seat of their centuries-old independence and democratic ideals as symbolized by the famous oak tree (a seedling of this tree is planted at our clubhouse). Gernika had no stra-

tegic value as a military target. Yet some time later, a secret report to Berlin was uncovered in which Von Richthofen stated, "...the concentrated attack on Guernica was the greatest success," making the dubious intent of the mission clear: the all-out air attack had been ordered on Franco's behalf to break the spirited Basque resistance to Nationalist forces. Gernika had served as the testing ground for a new Nazi military tactic - blanket-bombing a civilian population to demoralize the enemy. It was a wanton, man-made holocaust.

In 1999, the German Parliament formally apologized to the citizens of Gernika for the role the Condor Legion played in bombing the town. The German government also agreed to change the names of some German military barracks named after members of the Condor Legion. By contrast, no formal apology to the city has ever been offered by the Spanish government for whatever role it may have played in the bombing.

[Online source: http://www.pbs.org/treasuresoftheworld/guernica/glevel_1/1_bombing.html]

**This Sunday
April 29th
Come join us at noon!**

**Monthly Luncheon
featuring
BBQ Lamb**

Plus dance performance by Euskaldun Izarrak!

MIL ESKER *Club thanks to:*

- Gauden Bat: Liquor donation of 6 big bottles of V.O.; 2 big bottles of tequila; 2 Pernod; 3 Ricard; 2 vodka; 4 Baileys; 6 liters of soda; 40 beer; 24 wine glasses; wiring for Powerpoint
- Camou Family: \$133 for two Txilindron pans

EGUTEGIA *Upcoming Events:*

- Apr 29 (Sun): Club Luncheon / Euskaldun Izarrak
- May 5 (Sat): Fresno Picnic
- May 10 (Thurs): Kantu Osteguna 7pm
- May 19 (Sat): Ventura Picnic
- May 20 (Sun): Club Luncheon/ Txori Ttipiak & Txistulariak
- May 27 (Sun): Bakersfield Picnic
- June 8-10: NABO Convention in Winnemucca, Nevada
- June 17-29: 2007 NABO Udaleku in San Francisco
- June 17 (Sun): Club Luncheon / Dantzari Onestak
- July 1 (Sun): Southern California Euskaldun Club Picnic