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ELKO JAIETAN • 45TH ANNUAL
National Basque Festival

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45th Annual Elko Basque Festival

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Flossie Black
Jim Winer & Elko Lions Club

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Janet Iribarne
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Games
Fred Belita
Jess Lopategui

Game Secretaries
Vicki Goicoechea
Veronica Mendive
Toni Mendive

Handball
Jess Lopategui

Mass
A. T. Anacabe Franzoia

Sheepherder's Bread
Jess Lopategui
Flossie Black

Sunday Picnic Tickets
Stephanie Aguirre

Meal Line
Rosanna Gignac
Veronica Mendive

Chorizos
Chapo Leniz
Ramon Zugaiza
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Sunday Dancing/Entertainment
Stockmen's Hotel & Casino

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A Very Special Thank You to All of the Many Volunteers Who Help Make the Festival Happen!
Welcome to the 45th Annual Basque Festival!

Here at Western Nevada Supply Co. Elko we take great pride in our customers and community. Located in the Northeastern corner of Nevada at the gateway to the Ruby Mountains. We are the oldest plumbing supply house in Elko celebrating our 28th year in this great community.

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2008 Elko Euskaldunak Club Officers

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ELKO JAIETAN • 45TH ANNUAL
National Basque Festival
July 4th, 5th, 6th • Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Friday, July 4th
Handball • 5:00 p.m.
Handball Court, Elko City Park
Kick Off
Elko County Fairgrounds
Elko VFW #2350 & Elko Fireworks Committee

Saturday, July 5th
5K Run • 7:00 a.m.
Elko Basque Clubhouse
Parade • 11:00 a.m.
Custodio Downtown Rock; Ending at Elko County Fairgrounds
Thank you to our Chairpersons - Patrice Stich, James Winc; and Elko Lions Club for coordinating the parade and to our Grand Marshall, John Carpenter
Basque Games • 1:00 p.m.
Elko County Fairgrounds; Following Parade
Admission $5.00 per Person, Children Under 12 Free
Weight Lifting, Wood Chop, Wood Chopping, Weight Carrying Competitions,
Girls & Boys Tag of War: Elko High School vs. Spring Creek High School,
Tenting, Music, Sheep Dog Exhibition

Handball • 6:00 p.m.
Handball Court, Elko City Park
Basque Lecture
Duncan Little Creek Gallery
"Basque involvement in the Exploration and Development of the Southwestern US" by Steve Bass of Bakersfield, California
Saturday Night Dance • 10:00 p.m.
Elko County Fairgrounds, Cowboy Bar

Sunday, July 6th
Shepherd’er’s Bread Contest • 10:30 a.m.
Will be auctioned off at Mass
Elko City Park
Catholic Mass • 11:00 a.m.
Picnic • 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Followed by Dancing, Weight Lifting, Wood Choppping, Initial & Jota Contests

www.elkobasque.com

Letter from the President

I welcome you to the 45th Annual National Basque Festival in Elko, Nevada!

Many years have passed since sheep were trailed through the streets of Elko to their destination. He was called a shepherder then, and his family was a dog and a burro; his home was a tent.

He is still a shepherder, most often with a dog at his side; but nowadays he has a sheep wagon pulled by a vehicle and the sheep are hauled to their winter and summer ranges by diesel trucks.

We’re saluting the Basque Shepherd’er this weekend by celebrating the history of our Basque culture in Nevada with dance, games, music and food.

The Basque Festival would not happen if we didn’t have the many hard-working Elko Euskaldunak Club members, volunteers and generous sponsors. I would like to say thank you to the many participants and guests enjoying this year’s Festival. May all of you have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Please mark your calendars for our 46th Annual National Festival on July 3, 4, 5, 2009. We look forward to seeing you every year!

Fred Beltsia, Jr.
Fred Beltsia, Jr., Club President

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John Carpenter

Grand Marshall of the 45th Annual National Basque Festival

The Elko Basque Club is pleased to announce John C. Carpenter as its Grand Marshall of the 45th Annual National Basque Festival.

John Carpenter’s roots run deep in the state of Nevada with a list of credits spanning nearly six decades. This list includes sheep and cattle rancher, entrepreneur/businessman, and politician, just to name a few.

John Carpenter arrived in Elko County in the mid-1950s. A former resident of White Pine County, Nevada, Carpenter was already in an established partnership with his uncles, Martin and Andrew Magnuson. Carpenter’s move to Elko County was done in an effort to expand the partners’ already existing sheep & cattle business to an area more conducive to their needs. Shortly after Carpenter’s arrival in Elko County, the partners purchased a sheep outfit from Pete Elia, and so began what would become one of the largest sheepherding outfits in the Western United States.

John Carpenter continued in the sheep and cattle business for approximately 25 years. During this time he had the fortune to work with numerous Basque sheepherders, some of whom continue to live in Elko County. Carpenter’s respect for the Basque People is evident, as he describes his Basque compatriots as hard-working and loyal.

Carpenter shares a story of a Fourth of July picnic that he attended at Buckaroo Pete’s Ranch, hosted by Pete Elia and Red Ellis. Ellis eventually approached Carpenter with the idea of hosting a similar picnic in the Elko City Park, and so it began that Elia, Carpenter and Jess Goinoochea would host a annual Fourth of July picnic in the Elko City Park. Over time, the picnic became too large and was taken over by the Elko Basque Club. As Paul Harvey would say, “Now you know the rest of the story.”

John Carpenter continues to reside in Elko with his wife, Roseann. John and Roseann have seven children, 18 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

The Elko Basque Club wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to John Carpenter for his many contributions to our county, state, and to our country!
4th Annual 5K Run/Walk
Saturday, July 5, 2008 • 7:00 a.m.
Elko Basque Clubhouse

Run or walk – sign up on the day of event at the Elko Basque Clubhouse – 7:00 a.m. Race starts at 8:00 a.m.
To reserve a t-shirt, or for information, please call Cody Kronke at 738-6479.

Basque Festival Parade
Saturday, July 5, 2008 • 11:00 a.m.
"Past to Present"

The downtown streets of Elko will be filled as the 45th Annual Basque Festival Parade starts at 11:00 a.m. The parade will begin at 7th and Commercial Streets then proceed with the customary parade route ending at the Elko County Fairgrounds. This year’s parade will feature sheep wagons, dancers, and more. This year’s Grand Marshall is Assemblyman John Carpenter.

The Elko Basque Club would like to extend a special thank you to Jim and Rose Conner for their many years of "Parade" service!

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**Jota Contest**

The Jota is the most traditional Basque dance. There are many versions of this dance, to which the contestants add their own styles.

**Adults**
Ages 19 Years & Up

Cash Prizes
1st Place - $100.00  2nd Place - $50.00

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**Seniors**
Ages 15 Years To 17 Years

Prizes
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**Intermediate**
Ages 9 Years To 17 Years

Prizes
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**Juniors**
Ages 12 Years To 14 Years

Prizes
Sponsored by Newmont Mining Corporation

**Beginners**
Ages 8 Years And Under

Prizes
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**Biltoki**

"The Gathering Place"

Ramon Zugazaga arrived in Elko May 15, 1965, under contract with the Holland Ranch, the same outfit his father had worked on between 1919 and 1927 and where his brother was then employed. Employees often told his employers of relatives or friends who were interested in coming over to work; employers had a source of reliable workers and the new employees benefited from having friends or relatives help them adjust to their new surroundings.

Ramon summited with the sheep just west of Jarbridge and then trailed them to their winter range south of Ely (300 miles). In the spring, the trip was reversed with the sheep arriving at the Home Ranch for shearing and lambing in May. After five years on the ranch, Ramon went to work at the Star Hotel, where he cooked until 1978. In 1981, he opened Biltoki in Gooding, Idaho. Ramon moved the Biltoki to Elko in November of 1983. This property was originally called the Corner Bar and was operated by Maria and Antonia Jaurgui for many years. The bar and a small rental house next to it were combined to form the present building, which was a pizza parlor prior to Ramon’s occupancy. Ramon grew up around his mother’s restaurant, which is still run by his sister in Genika, Vizcaya. Many of the dishes found on the Biltoki special board were learned at his mother’s side. Biltoki’s family style method of serving originated in the Basque Hotels with the strong ranch influence dictating the use of much beef and lamb.

---

Ramon Zugazaga is proud to carry on
the Basque traditions in the American West.
Shepherd Photos

Provided Courtesy of Northeastern Nevada Museum

Basque shepherders have changed tremendously over the years. From their wardrobe and their supplies to their campsites and their practices. However, one thing remains; their love of the outdoors. These photos provide a window into their past...

Dance Exhibition

The Elko Euskaldunak Club welcomes the following groups:

Elko "Arifah" Dancers & Boise "Dinkari" Dancers

Visiting Basque dancing groups sponsored in part by Elko Convention & Visitors Authority and Sam Alcarco.

Irrintzi Contest

Originally a war cry, the Basque yell is a long, wailing yell. Something between a laugh, a shriek, and a horse's neigh, to which the Basque give vent today on festival occasions.

1st Place - $50.00  
2nd Place - $30.00  
3rd Place - $20.00

Donated by Manuel Edo Birch • Dedicated to the memory of all the old shepherders.

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Overland Hotel

After immigrating from the Basque country and after eleven years of laboring in the United States, Domingo and Gregoria Sabala fulfilled a lifelong dream. In 1910, they co-opened the Overland Hotel with family-friend Eusalbo Onaindia. Torn down in the 1980’s, The Overland Hotel was a three story building located on 4th Street. However, the Overland Hotel was not just another building, at one point in time it was the social and business center of the community. It provided not only rooms to Basque shepherders during the winter, but it was a traditional Basque restaurant, serving three meals a day. The Overland also hosted weddings, confirmations, baptisms, births, and even funerals for the community. Gregoria Sabala became a prominent mother figure to the community. Through years of experience, she acted as a midwife to young Basque women that came to Elko for her care. During the 1918 flu epidemic; the Overland and Sabala family provided shelter and care for those stricken by the tragedy. The Overland was home to the Sabala’s home and to the Basque community. It was a gathering place to catch up with friends, sing, dance, eat and drink. The family was dedicated to their cultural roots and to the comfort of their customers. Despite the Overland’s many successes, a time came when the family had to shut its doors. After the stock market crash and depression, they lost nearly everything and were forced to sell all of which they had worked towards, the Overland Hotel. The Overland Hotel was bought and sold a few times after the original owners, but it never possessed the same charm it once had. It eventually closed down. Today, the Overland Hotel is simply a memory in many Elkoan and Basque minds.

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Many Years of Proud Settlement

"Reprinted from a Historic Festival Program"

- The Basque shepherdess wiped the dust from his face, whistled his dog to him and strode toward a sagebrush covered bluff.
- As he walked, he glanced at the purple, white-capped mountains 80 miles to the north. There, his flock, attended by him and his dog had summeread. There, in the north was the land that reminded him of his homeland in the Pyrenees Mountains of Europe. With a sigh, he felt the yearning in response to the call of home. Shaking the nostalgia from his mind, he envisioned the realness of that ancient land – of her proud, hard-working, stubborn people – of the oppression by Spain and France – of the loss of freedom, though the heady nectar of it flowed in every Basque heart! – All this and more flowed in his brain – of his flight from home – flight to that Chosen Land across the sea – America, the land that beckoned, "Give me your poor, your oppressed..."

A sharp yelp and low growl of his dog broke his reverie. He then realized he was atop the bluff. Below him spread the Humboldt River Valley, dotted with tents intersected by the river and the railroad tracks. The railroad. For this he had driven his flock – to ship the lambs to the East. To ship the product of his new freedom – the result of the marriage of thousands of years of Old – World heritage with this wide, awesome, virgin, lonely and opportunity-filled land.

Free? Yes! Lonely? Yes! And the loneliness became poignant as he moved among the tents and heard the chatter of the Chinise interspersed with litter of Gaelic and the hearty laugh of the Irish. These people, also had heeded the siren call of America – and they built the railroads.

SADNESS once more filled his heart. Yet, suddenly, it quickened as he thought, "More of my people will come. Freedom I have! The loneliness I shall defeat!"

July 2008 • Elko, Nevada - The 45th Annual National Basque Festival

We are here to celebrate hundreds of years of Basque heritage and close to a century and a half of Elko history.

Yet, that is not all we celebrate. The purpose of the festival is not to venerate the Basque. It is, rather, through the dance, food, language, and games of the Basque to remind us of our beginnings, to remind us of the sweetness of freedom. To bring to mind the basics of life, and above all, to salute our troops and the United States of America.

Surely the spirit of the old Basque herder cannot be lonely here among us today. After so many years later, the dreams and traditions of his homeland have found fertile ground upon which to grow.


Euskal Abeslai

Adun eñ zdun abeslai.
Egun eñ zdun abeslai.
Mendiaren zehatun abeslai.
Ez eñ rixunak, berriak, berriak.
Hatzi eñ zdun abeslai.
Hatzi eñ zdun eñ zdun
Hatzi eñ zdun abeslai.
Hatzi eñ zdun eñ zdun.

Basque Song

You see in the morning,
When the sun comes up,
You see a white house,
between two big rocks.
A little spring flows,
A white dog at the door.
Then I live in peace.
Basque Competitions
Saturday, July 5, 2008 • 1:00 p.m.
Elko County Fairgrounds • $5.00 Entry Fee per Person (Under 12 Free)

Let the competitions begin!

Starting at 1:00 p.m., you will be part of the festival games. It all begins with Karen Rogers and Malte Molina singing the National Anthem & the Basque Anthem. The Elko "Arizkak" Dancers and the Boise, Idaho, "Dinkari" Dancers will perform authentic dances. New this year will be the Sheep Dog Exhibition, along with weight lifting, wood chopping, and other Basque games.

Enjoy the vendor booths and try a chorizo or two.

Phone: 775.778.0740
4450 P & H Drive
Elko, Nevada 89801
www.minepro.com
Basque Picnic

Sunday, July 6, 2008 • 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Elko City Park • ($12.00 per Adult, $6.00 Children Under 12)

Cooked and Served by Members of the Elko Euzkaldunak Club

MENU • Barbecued Beef Tri-Tip • Barbecued Lamb Steaks • Basque Beans • Paella • Green Salad • Bread • Dessert
Wine and Brandy donated by: BLACH DISTRIBUTING & ALMADEN VINEYARDS
Coffee donated by: FARMER BROTHERS COFFEE COMPANY

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Elko Ariñak Dancers

Thank You Very Much To Our Patient Dance Instructors
Beginners • Barbara Dowsley and Amber Ratliff
Juniors • Michele Schack
Seniors • Cassie Gordon and Christi Chabot

Photo: Courtesy of Great Basin
Sheepherder's Bread

Contest & Auction
Sponsored by Nevada Dinner House

Register at the ticket trailer between 10:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday at the Elko City Park. Golden loaves of sheepherders bread baked Dutch oven style - the loaves will be auctioned right after mass. Proceeds from the auction will be donated to the Wells Earthquake Recovery Fund.

Winners of the bread contest will receive:
1st Place - $50.00  2nd Place - $30.00  3rd Place - $20.00

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**Holy Mass**

Sunday, July 6, 2008 • 11:00 a.m.
Elko City Park

In Loving Memory 2007-2008
If we have neglected to name your loved one, please accept our sincere apologies.

Felisia Basahaz  Raymond Mendive
Lucy Echepary  Darlene Sabala
Ysidoro Fagoaga  Rosie Schultz
Domingo Garatea  Jess Sustachka
Jackie Heguy  Patricia “Mitzi” Uriarte
Manuel Izaquiarre  Livia Zaga

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**Agreement for the Employment of Spanish Sheepherder in the United States of America**

**PARTY A:** The Western Range Association, a not-for-profit Corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of Nevada, United States of America, for the purpose of protecting and conserving the Range-of-Range in the Western States of the United States of America, contracted with the representative of Party B (below) for the services he will render hereunder.

**PARTY B:** Jose Ornelas, representing the Mexican government.

The Western Range Association (hereinafter referred to as "WRA") and the Mexican government (hereinafter referred to as "Mexico") agree as follows:

1. The Mexican government, through its representative "Jose Ornelas," agrees to employ a Spanish sheepherder to perform the services described in this agreement.

2. The sheepherder will be under the direct supervision of WRA and will be paid by WRA at a rate of $25 per day for each day he performs the services.

3. The sheepherder will be provided with food, shelter, and transportation to and from the employment site.

4. The sheepherder will be required to adhere to all WRA policies and procedures for sheepherding.

**Signature**

Jose Ornelas, Representative

**Date**
June 30, 2008

**Western Range Association**

**Signature**

Mary Anderson, President

**Date**
June 30, 2008
The Star Hotel opened in December of 1910 after a September construction start and building costs of $11,000. The longtime dream of Pete Jaurgas, to make a home away from home for Basques, had come true.

Eleven rooms, one bath and heat from wood stoves provided a cozy home for herdsmen needing a place to stay until spring. Two years later, increased business demands required adding on, thus doubling the size of the building to its present-day size. Sheep bands were sold in the winter, leaving herdsmen without a home. The Star Hotel offered a friendly place with familiar language and customs, so unlike the English language and the incomprehensible customs they found in their new, strange land.

The Basques, since recorded time, have always sought work wherever necessary to survive economically. Whether they were cod fishermen in Newfoundland pick to Leif Erickson, Europe’s first whalers, or sailors of Columbus relied on, they never forgot their homeland. It was customary for Basques to immigrate and stay—once established—to bring over family. It was common for religious people to immigrate, as evidenced in Mexico, which at that time included the American Southwest, California and Nevada. The first bishop and archbishop of Mexico was Basque and influenced Basques to colonize the territory.

Many Basques went to South America, and not until the 49ers and the gold rush in the late 1840s did the Basques seek wind of their new land. They brought relatives to be ranchers and shepherders, and as the word and idea spread, many Basques came and were among the primary developers of the open-range sheep industry.

Time and political wars divided the Basques geographically—the North, France; the South, Spain —“Zapagak hat,” “the Spanis are One,” symbolizes the four Spanish provinces and the three French provinces. The beginning of Basque nationalism and the name “cuskad,” referring to the Basque region, began in the 1890s. It was a long time coming for a group of people and a language that evolved from the inhabitants of the caves of that region over 10,000 years ago.

The Star Hotel was and continues to be a gathering place for all Basques. When it was first built, right life was nonexistent and the Star began holding dances, foremothers to the Shepherders’ Ball still held during the winter. One attraction of these dances was the presence of young Basque girls who had come over to work in the hotel as maids and waitresses.

**Star Hotel**

*Turnover was rapid because most of the young women quickly received marriage proposals.*

*Board and room during the early years cost $1.00 a day, and drinks at the bar were eight to ten for $1.00. During Prohibition, drinks were served in a private room where the evidence could be quickly hidden in the event of a raid.*

*Meals were served family style, in the patterned, copper ceiling dining room. When the meals were ready, a waitress rang a large bell which could be heard everywhere in the hotel. There were no menus, and everyone ate the same thing at large tables where they mingled while eating. Family style service and the calling dinner bell are customs still practiced today. There are some long-term boarders who are considered family and who eat at the Star, but most of the restaurant business comes from the community and tourism.*

*Jaurgas, Corta, Arrasaca, Garamendi, Bengoa, Ozarras, Juriuri, Eneoz, Yanci, Albaldaz, Saresas, Leonis, Lizcant. These were families making the Star the only hotel! in Elko continually owned by Basques, carrying on a 90-year tradition of Basque hospitality. The present proprietors of the Star Hotel are Scott and Tricia Ygua. They purchased the establishment in November of 2004 and are continuing to provide the friendly atmosphere and excellent food that has been a hallmark of the Star since 1910.*

**On Egin - Enjoy Your Meal.**

Star Hotel Basque Clams & Rice

This recipe, from the Star Hotel, is from the late 1910s-early 1920s, and is reprinted here in its exact form.

Scrub clams well with a wire brush. Soak 1 1/2 cups of Uncle Ben’s Rice in 1 cup of water. In cast iron dutch oven, or heavy pot, melt 1/2 cup of butter. Sauteé 2 bunches of green onions, 1 bunch of parsley and 2 cloves of garlic until lightly browned and tender. Add scrubbled clams, 1 teaspoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon pepper and 1 can of Benson’s chicken broth. Bring to a boil, cover tightly, and simmer for 15 minutes. Add rice and water that has been set aside (if you want more clams, add 2 cans of Snow’s clams). Bring back to boil, cover and simmer for 30 more minutes.
Weight Lifting

Junior Weight Carrying Contest
The Junior Weight Carrying is open to those 16 years of age and under. Weight carried is 150 pounds (75 pounds in each hand) on a 100-foot course. The contestant who carries the weight the longest distance wins. Permission release forms must be signed by parents in order to participate in this event.

Senior Weight Carrying Contest
This contest is open to anyone over the age of 16. The contestant will carry 208 pounds (104 pounds in each hand) on a 100-foot course. The winner will be determined by who carries the weight the furthest distance.

Limited to First Ten Contestants to Sign Up
1st Place - $200.00  2nd Place - $100.00  3rd Place - $50.00
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Open Weight Lifting Contest
This contest is open to anyone over the age of 18. The contest will be won by the lifter who can lift a 225 pound cylinder to his shoulder, drop the cylinder and repeat the most lifts in a three-minute period. To qualify for the money, a lifter must have at least six legal lifts in the three-minute period.

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3rd Place - $100.00  Sponsored by Elko General Merchandise
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Now called the Nevada Dinner House, the original Nevada Hotel and Bar was built by Anastacio and Jeanne Viscarett in 1927 on the north side of Silver Street behind the Stockmen’s Hotel. In 1937, Nazareth and Veronica Hochquett bought the hotel, and it was owned by the Lucas family in the 1940s. After Calisto and Flora Lacunza bought the business in the late 1940s, they moved the building across the railroad tracks next to the Telescope Hotel—its current location at 351 Silver Street in Elko. Later, the Nevada Dinner House was managed and then owned by the Lacunza’s daughter and son-in-law, Mary and John Aguirre.

In the mid-1980s the Nevada was purchased by Leo and Leni Morandi, who wanted to carry on the tradition of great food and service, not only for dinner but also for really special occasions. Leo, an Italian, began to introduce some Italian dishes—most particularly his lasagne, which is still made completely by hand in the restaurant.

The Nevada is now owned by a group of Elko people who are committed to preserving the rich heritage of the business by continuing to serve the old Nevada Hotel and Bar specialties, combined with an expanding emphasis on traditional Italian cuisine. Common to both the Basque and Italian regions is a love of fresh, simply prepared food that uses the finest ingredients—a blend of culture and cuisine we like to call Mediterranean.

Nevada Dinner House Lamb Shanks

6 full lamb shanks
3 cups white wine, divided
bone, well rinsed
1/2 cup (1/2 stick) butter
4 stalks celery
2 tablespoons flour
1 onion, quartered
Salt
2 teaspoons minced garlic
Pepper
Parsley

Preheat oven to 350 F. Place rinsed lamb shanks in roasting pan with minced garlic and season with salt and pepper. Toss in celery, carrots and onion. Roast in oven for 1 and 1/2 hours.

Remove from oven and add 2 cups white wine. Return to oven for 20 minutes.

Remove from oven and strain juices.

In a separate frying pan, melt butter and add flour to create a roux. Once the roux is browned, add reserved juices and 1 cup white wine. Salt and pepper to taste. Return sauce to roasting pan and mix with lamb shanks. Serve with rice and garnish with parsley.
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