

Spring 4-17-2017

04-17-2017 La Charla Semanal del Centro

El Centro de la Raza

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LA CHARLA SEMANAL CON EL CENTRO

Quick thoughts:

Good morning and happy Monday! Hang in there, as summer break is coming rapidly! We encourage all our Raza community with social media accounts that wish to keep updated with the latest information to follow us on our various accounts. Our Facebook can be found under El Centro de la Raza @ElCentroUNM, Twitter @El CentroUNM, or our snapchat @elcentrounm. Have a fantastic week!

This Week at El Centro:

Take a break! Join our Lobo Unidos mentors today, **Monday, April 10th** for an afternoon filled with card and board games. This event will be held in the El Centro Foyer from **2:00 pm to 5:00 pm**. Come relax and take a break from all the studying and work you are doing!

This week at UNM:

Undergraduate students with at least 60 credits by Fall 2017 and a 3.0 cumulative GPA are encouraged to apply for the 2017-2018 **McNair and ROP** cohort! The application is now open and available at mcnair.unm.edu. The **deadline is this Saturday, April 15, 2017**. Please see the application for other eligibility requirements. Apply soon, while there are still openings!

Reminders:

The UNM Alumni Association's 2017/2018 scholarship postings are now available. Please go to <https://www.unmalumni.com/scholarships.html> for more information.

Save the date: **Raza Graduation will be held on Friday, May 5th** this year. All students who graduated this past December or will be graduating this May should sign up at <https://elcentro.unm.edu/communityintercultural/raza-graduation.html> to participate. If you'd like more information, please feel free to call our front desk at 505-277-5020. **Congratulations to all those graduating!**

Quote of the week:

"It always seems impossible until it's done." -Nelson Mandela



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This Spring



THE UNIVERSITY of
NEW MEXICO

UNM SMALL BUSINESS AND STRATEGIC PARTNER VENDOR FAIR

Date: April 19, 2017

Time: 10:30 am—1:30pm

*Where: UNM SUB
Ballrooms A, B & C*

- ◆ Support Small Local Businesses
- ◆ Vendor giveaways, door prize drawings, & light refreshments
- ◆ Meet Current and New Vendors
- ◆ Bring your business cards
- ◆ Earn GOLDEN RAFFLE TICKET by engaging multiple vendors at their booths

*For Information Contact:
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Hosted by: University of New Mexico Purchasing Department



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WWOOF-USA® FACT SHEET

● **What is WWOOF-USA®?**

Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms, USA (WWOOF-USA) is part of a worldwide effort to link visitors with organic farmers, promote an educational exchange and help build a global community conscious of ecological farming practices. WWOOF-USA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that produces a directory of organic farms, communities, and garden projects for visitors interested in gaining hands-on experience in sustainable living. For more information on WWOOF-USA, please visit: www.woofusa.org.

● **History of WWOOF**

The first WWOOF program was started in the United Kingdom in 1971, as ‘Weekend Workers on Organic Farms’ – an idea designed to encourage city folks to experience firsthand the benefits of growing food. More than 40 years later, WWOOF organizations are now present in more than 50 countries and they have grown to be known as ‘Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms’, or more simply, WWOOF. Each country’s WWOOF program operates independently, so a membership to WWOOF-USA provides access to the WWOOF hosts in the USA. However, WWOOF groups from around the world collaborate and support each other and their shared mission. For more information on WWOOF around the world, please visit: www.woof.net.

● **WWOOF-USA Today**

Founded in 2001, today WWOOF-USA has more than 2,100 hosts in all 50 states (plus Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands), and more than 18,000 ‘WWOOFers’ (or visitors) signing up each year.

● **How It Works**

WWOOFers learn about sustainable agriculture and receive free meals and lodging - with no money exchanged between hosts and WWOOFers. WWOOFers typically help with projects on the farm for about half of each day, then have the rest of the day to explore the area, relax, and enjoy being on a farm. WWOOF is a cultural and educational exchange program, and is a way to learn practical farming skills while being part of a local community and discovering sustainable ways of living.

The WWOOF-USA Host Farm Directory lists over 2100 organic farms and gardens across the country. Any farm, community or garden project using organic methods that would like to participate in a cultural and educational exchange may join the program. WWOOF farms offer a variety of educational opportunities, including growing fruits and vegetables, beekeeping, building straw bale houses and other alternative building projects, working with animals, making wine, cheese-making, and much more. Anyone 18 years of age or older may become a WWOOFer, regardless of experience. We encourage all types of WWOOFers and hosts who would like to cooperate to strengthen sustainable agriculture in the US to be a part of WWOOF-USA.

After signing up, each host creates an online profile in the directory that describes their location, general responsibilities, projects, accommodations, and lifestyle, as well as a farm photo gallery. WWOOFers also create a profile with information about themselves, links to farms they have visited, and a photo. Both WWOOFer and host profiles include useful comments and ratings from other members they’ve met – a helpful reference when making WWOOF connections. There are also member forums where hosts and WWOOFers can post opportunities and share ideas.

Wwoofers decide which farms interest them, then contact those farms to ask about availability and arrange a stay. Wwoof agreements can be defined any number of ways and the hours spent on the farm, types of projects, meal arrangements and accommodations can vary greatly. The length of a farm stay is determined by the Wwoofer and the host, and can range from a few days to a few months. Accommodations could be a guest room, an off-grid cabin, a yurt, a tipi, or a converted barn stall, just to name a few of the many options available through the network. Meals may be shared family-style, or Wwoofers could be provided with staples and fresh products from the farm to prepare for themselves. Hosts will describe their accommodations and expectations on their online profile, and discuss these with Wwoofers prior to a visit.

To see **photos and videos** submitted by members, visit www.wwoofusa.org/photos for photos posted by hosts and Wwoofers, or visit www.stories.wwoofusa.org, for videos made by Wwoof members and shared on the 'My Wwoof Story' platform.

● **How to join WWOOF-USA®**

Join online, become a member, and start Wwoofing.

Becoming Wwoof-USA member as a host or a Wwoofer is easily done online at www.wwoofusa.org. The cost for a one-year Wwoofer membership is \$40 for online access to the Directory of Host Farms, or \$50 for online access plus a printed directory sent in the mail. Host registration is a \$15-\$50 sliding scale fee to be listed in the directory each year.

● **Membership Statistics**

As of January 2017, Wwoof-USA's active membership is 2,180 hosts and 18,500 Wwoofers, with over 100,000 Wwoof participants since 2003.

Many Wwoofers go on to start their own farms or gardens, and become involved in agricultural communities by supporting their local organic farmers. Some Wwoofers even go on to become Wwoof hosts themselves, completing the cycle of passing on the knowledge they gained to the next generation of Wwoofers... and future farmers.

● **Testimonials**

"This was the first Wwoofing experience for our family of 6. We stayed in our RV for one week. Our hosts displayed an incredible aptitude for encouraging learning throughout the week for our entire family. Want to learn to drive a tractor? No problem! Want your son to learn to drive a zero-turn mower? Sure! Would you like to use our horses to go trail riding with your kids? Absolutely! It was obvious that their intent was to share the experience of their ranch with anyone who was interested in receiving it. The location was beautiful, the food was great and the people were welcoming--win, win, win! We were blessed to have such a positive first experience Wwoofing and we can't thank Doug and AJ enough for their hospitality." – Wwoofer Heather

"We had our best Wwoof season ever last year, almost a constant stream of Wwoofers, and all amazing folks! Thank you so so much for the opportunity to learn from these people, to share different personalities and cultures with our kids, and to get some much appreciated help on the farm." – Katharine, Wwoof Host

"This was our second farm-stay through Wwoof, and it was a wonderful experience. Renee truly embodies the best qualities of a Wwoof host, and her farm is a great introduction to farming for new Wwoofers. We are grateful for your organization and the work it does to connect farms with volunteers, and we look forward to Wwoofing on more farms in the coming months. Thank you for all you do!" – Wwoofer Andrea

"Hosting has been so wonderful! It is an amazing experience and the connections that Wwoof enables are so great. I am going Wwoofing in another country soon!" – Mandala, Wwoof Host

"Wwoofing turned out to be more of an experience than I ever could've hoped for! My friend Lindsay and I set out with no idea what to expect, only to come home with stories and experiences that you only read about. We made a new Wwoofer friend during our 2 week stay in Kemmerer, Wyoming. I know in my heart that I never want to be a sheep rancher, but I loved every minute of learning and playing with the lambs! I look forward to finding another opportunity to volunteer and hope it's every bit as exciting as the last trip!" – Wwoofer Trista