

STUDY of ANCIENT LIFEWAYS and TECHNOLOGIES

S.A.L.T. MISSION STATEMENT

S.A.L.T.'s primary goal is to understand, practice and share all life skills and arts of the ancient world. This is accomplished by regular Skills Meetings and informing the public through various Events.



www.saltskills.com

saltskills@gmail.com

Charlie Tadano, President

Tom Wax, Vice President

Jennifer Ahumada, Secretary

Tamara Tadano, Treasurer

Laura Robins, Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

Donna Moses, Events / Bead Chairperson

Volume 16, Issue 1

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

S.A.L.T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19th

10 am – 2 pm

at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM

S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS / DRUMMING CIRCLE 9am

**S.A.L.T. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
AND ELECTIONS FOR VICE PRES. & SECRETARY**

S.A.L.T. SKILLS #1, 2, & 3

Discoidal Blade, Cordage, & Friction Fire

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

WUERTZ GOURD FESTIVAL, JAN. 31st – FEB. 2nd

Saturday, February 15th SKILLS MEETING at SVM

S.A.L.T. SKILL #25 DECORATION Argillite – Charlie & Tam

S.A.L.T. QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS

WINTER COUNT, FEBRUARY 16-22, 2025

**Monday, February 17th S.A.L.T. MEMBERS
FIELDTRIP TO WINTERCOUNT**

**REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR S.A.L.T. SHIRTS
TO ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS!**

*All Members make sure Tamara has your name
on the membership list for free entry into SVM!*

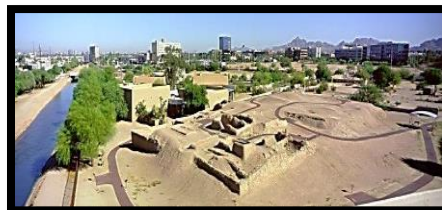
~SENDING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE~



S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM

in English it is "Central Platform Mound."
Pronounced: SUE DOVE VE AWKEY

S'EDAV VA'AKI Museum (formerly Pueblo Grande Museum) is an archaeological site once inhabited by the Hohokam culture, just east of downtown Phoenix, next to Sky Harbor International Airport. It's a National Historic Landmark and Phoenix Point of Pride accessible by the Sky Train and the Light Rail. Part of the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department since 1929, it's the largest preserved archaeological site in Phoenix.



**"Unless there is CONTEXT,
it's all arts and crafts." Steve Watts**

4619 E. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034 (602) 495-0901



FESTIVAL QUESTIONS?
wuertzfarm@wuertzfarm.com



WINTER COUNT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
FEBRUARY 16-22, 2025

REGISTRATION OPENED NOVEMBER 1st
AND IS NOW CLOSED !

Winter Count, (started 1995), is part of a family of gatherings that strive to reconnect people with old ways of making fire, tanning hides, forming metal, weaving baskets, hunting, gathering and much more. We teach ancestral skills that were essential to the survival and well-being of all cultures, no matter what continent your ancestors came from. Through the understanding and mastery of these skills, people find that they can connect not only to a simpler way of living life but also to the roots of their heritage and to a pathway to interact more deeply with the natural world.

We provide a camp with some of the best instructors in their fields, teaching what they have learned through experience, experimentation and through source materials. Some of the instructors have spent many years perfecting their crafts. Some have managed archeological sites while others have lived deeply among the wild places, hunting, raising their own food and making their own clothing and tools from the most basic elements. We are a diverse group of people from many experiences, opinions, and family backgrounds, who come together to share what it is that makes us excited about life.

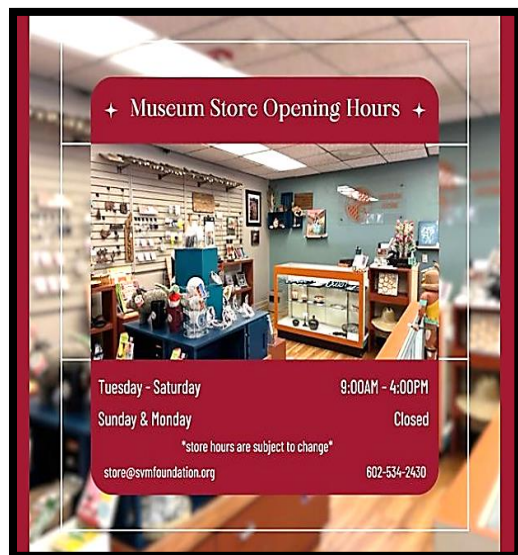
Winter Count is a drug, alcohol, and firearm free event.

Winter Count 505-570-9484
 369 Montezuma Avenue, #326, Santa Fe, NM 87501

WinterCountCamp@gmail.com
www.WinterCountCamp.com

ATTENTION S.A.L.T. MEMBERS !!!

S.A.L.T. MEMBERS HAVE BEEN INVITED OUT TO WINTER COUNT FOR A FREE DAY, ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH! WE WILL ALL MEET UP IN FLORENCE AND DRIVE OUT TO THE BOULDERS TOGETHER. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SEEING WHAT WINTER COUNT IS ALL ABOUT, PLEASE CALL CHARLIE AT 602-524-6910.





DON'T MISS THE JAN. 2025 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

Saturday, January 19th 10 am - 2 pm

(Remember to bring something for the Potluck Brunch!)

**S.A.L.T. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
AND ELECTIONS FOR V-PRES. & SEC.**

**S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS and the S.A.L.T.
DRUMMING CIRCLE will meet at 9 am**

**S.A.L.T. SKILLS #1 - DISCOIDAL BLADE, 2
- CORDAGE, & 3 - FRICTION FIRE**

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
1. Cutting Tool	Make a flake and Discoidal Blade	Make flakes from three different rocks and refine the tools	Demonstrate a use or project with the tool
2. Cordage	Make a uniform 3 foot length of cordage	Process three different fibers and make cordage	Demonstrate a use or project with the cordage
3. Friction Fire	Demonstrate one method of primitive fire starting	Forage for materials, construct hand drill or bow drill and make fire	Make a complete Fire Kit to use and display



DISCOIDAL BLADE



CORDAGE



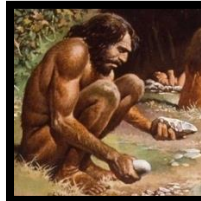
FRICTION FIRE

**LEVEL I of SKILLS 1, 2 and 3
INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AT EVERY SKILL
MEETING DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER...**

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
1. Cutting Tool	Make a flake and Discoidal Blade	Make flakes from three different rocks and refine the tools	Demonstrate a use or project with the tool
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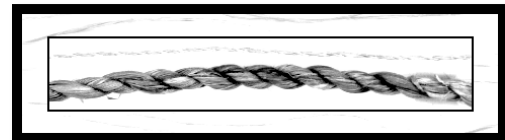
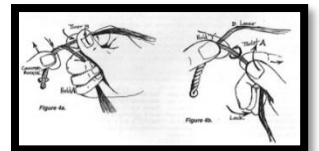
SKILL #1 CUTTING TOOL: Level I

Make a flake and discoidal blade.



SKILL #2 CORDAGE: Level I

Make a uniform 3-foot length of cordage.



SKILL #3 FRICTION FIRE: Level I

Demonstrate one method of primitive fire starting.



(Beads will be given out to new members when Level I of all three of the above Membership Requirement Skills are completed, and dues are paid.)

Remember to bring your own primitive tools and materials to the Monthly Skill Meetings, if you have them. Materials for the Membership Requirement Skills are provided at each meeting for guests and new members.

Also, you are responsible to sign in at meetings and events to be included in the newsletters, etc. and note on the sign-in sheet each level of each skill you complete to be awarded your beads. You need to make a Personal Bead to receive the leather thong for your Skill Beads. Thanks!

DECEMBER 2024 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Board Members in attendance: Charlie & Tamara Tadano, Laura Robins, Tom Wax, Jennifer Ahumada, Gary Alves, and Peter Huegel

Members in attendance: Luis & Noah Ahumada, Joyce Alves, Bill Warner, Carol Schroeter, Linda Jolle, Billy Nickel, Reena Zapata, Susan Jeffay, Donald Raker, Sue Roxburgh, Sam Sargent, Teresa McCoy, Carol & Awak McGarry, Justin Sowden and Katie Shields

Guest: Ernie Verrue

S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS & DRUMMERS MEET BEFORE OUR SKILLS CLASS at 9:00 am

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
5. Flint Knapping	Demonstrate Core Reduction by Percussion	Use Percussion to produce Bi face Preform	Make primitive tools such as Southwestern Points



Justin and Bill



Luis caught napping!

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
25. Musical Instruments / Games	Take a class and make an instrument or game	Make and learn how to play 1 instrument and 1 game on your own	Demonstrate and display 3 instruments and 3 games



Charlie opened the meeting and Peter talked about an upcoming auction that will have some of our items in it.

S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 DECORATION

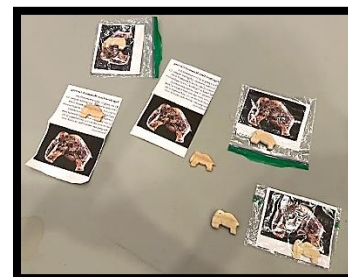
Carve a Mastodon with Gary Alves

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
24. Decoration – Pigments, etc.	Make a personal S.A.L.T. Bead	Research 6 different kinds of decoration such as pigments, etc.	Display 3 different items that were decorated by you

Great class on carving a wooden mastodon. It's a replica of one carved of mammoth ivory and found in Vogelherd Cave in southwestern Germany. It was carved approximately 33,000 years ago and was part of material from an excavation in 1931.



Gary Alves



Some finished carvings

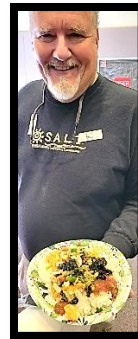
TIME FOR THE FAMOUS TADANO CHICKEN CURRY!



Rice and delicious chicken curry made by Charlie's daughter!
Thank you to everyone who brought condiments!



The fun is to add a variety of condiments and create a masterpiece!
Prettiest and Ugliest looking get a prize!



Ugliest - Sam

Prettiest - Reena





Jen, Noah, Tom and Luis



Susan, Peter, Linda, Sue and Don



Carol, Billy and Reena



Congrats to Billy and Reena on their upcoming Wedding!



WHITE ELEPHANT DICE GAME GIFT EXCHANGE!
Lots of awesome primitive gifts!



S.A.L.T. MEMBERS OUT AND ABOUT

MINNESOTA 2024
with Ron Moses



"The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep."

Robert Frost

[#wanderingwithmoses](#)



Snow...

S.A.L.T. MEMBERS PROJECT / INFO GALLERY

ARROW POINTS and PRESENTS
by Tom Wax

Some of the points I have made over the years. One is as small as a dime.



Primitive/Bushcraft skills played a part for Christmas this year at our house. I made a wood Spoon and a pine needle breadbasket for Diane and a Basket maker Style II knife for Garrett.



《&》 BETWEEN THE RIVERS GATHERING 《&》

May 26th – 31st, 2025



Email Mullein HERE with any further questions

Between the Rivers Gathering is a week-long educational workshop for learning skills that originated in the stone-age all the way up to modern homesteading. We are an annual event located in Washington State about an hour north of Spokane. We will have a multitude of instructors offering a broad-range of classes all week long. Included will be wilderness survival skills of all kind, basic and homespun living, preparedness and skills of a practical and archeological nature.

We offer hands-on classes in ancestral living and survival, and we also focus on the skills of self-sufficiency and sustainable living to minimize our impact on this planet we all share. Come join our community and experience for yourself what an ancestral skills gathering is all about!

Ancestral Skills for Self-Sufficiency
Sponsored by Bridges to the Past 501(c)(3)

Northeastern Washington State Ancestral Skills & Self-Sufficiency Gathering

Other [Skills Gatherings](#)
[BtR T-Shirt](#)

Burning questions that can't wait? Contact
us: patrickf@bridgestothepast.org

BetweentheRiversGathering.com

BTR LOGO HATS ARE AVAILABLE!



Kandis Larson is making Between the Rivers Gathering Logo Hats and making them available to you! Each hat has a leather patch branded with our BTR logo that we have all grown to love, no two are alike, and have a primitive touch to them.

kandiscreated@gmail.com

509-994-0585 cell . @kandis created (Instagram)

**IMAGINE US IN
THE STONE AGE**



37TH RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho

SEPTEMBER 14 – 20, 2025

Rabbitstick Primitive Skills Gathering, held the 3rd week of September in ID, is the premier Backtracks event. Rabbitstick is the oldest of all of the modern primitive skills events and has been the model for most of the events currently running worldwide. Each year we host nearly 150 instructional and support staff who provide a camp with hands-on classes that run 9am-5pm for 5 days for about 400 registered participants. This is an unparalleled opportunity to learn skills and get to know teachers that you can trust. Visit our new website -rabbitstick.com – for complete event and registration details.

Backtracks has assembled one of the largest and most complete rosters of primitive skills teachers and practitioners available anywhere. Backtracks is your source for the best instructional staff you'll find at any event. **Join us next year!**

www.rabbitstick.com

[Register On-Line Today](#)
[Share a Ride Bulletin Board](#)
[Meet Our Staff](#)

Rabbitstick | (208) 359-
2400 | backtracks905@gmail.com |
societyofprimitivetech@gmail.com



Bulletin of Primitive Technology website at -
primitive.org. Order back issues, download a complete index of topics and titles, or view the entire first issue and newsletters for free. Don't miss out on this amazing collection of information. It's up and running and ready to take your orders now.

<https://www.facebook.com/Backtracks-Keeping-Traditions-Alive-213565755397099/?fref=Nf>



FALL CAMP for ANCESTRAL SKILLS October 9 - 12, 2025

Instructors:

Please check in with Patrick if you would like to teach.

[Email Patrick HERE](#)

[Fall Camp Website](#)

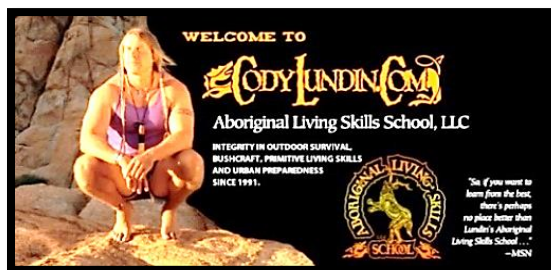
PRESCOTT PRIMITIVE LIVING SKILLS Prescott, Arizona

Check out Kiowa Sage on Facebook!

Hello friends! It's Kiowa Sage! I started a local meetup group to teach courses on primitive living skills, nature awareness and outdoor survival skills - all of which I've been training in for many years. All classes ranging from two hour workshops, day long classes and multiple day immersion courses. Skills and knowledge bases such as making fire with sticks, edible and medicinal plants, animal trapping and tracking, fiber arts and weaving, basic outdoor survival skills and how to do more with less in the outdoors. Right now I only have a couple classes listed until I acquire more traffic. Check out some of the listings that are available! www.meetup.com
Watch for new listings of classes that are offered, and there will be more to come!

-Kiowa Sage

THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE LESS YOU NEED



www.codylundin.com abodude@codylundin.com

Earth Knack

Courses, Classes, and Programs



Independent Living Skills ... More Important Now Than Ever! Hands-On, In-Person Instruction ... More Important Now Than Ever! Lighthearted Positive Teachings ... More Important Now Than Ever!
Top Quality Instruction ... Our Specialty Since 1990!
Robin Blankenship, Founder, Owner and Instructor of Earth Knack School Author: [How To Play In The](#)

Woods (Gibbs Smith, Publisher 2016)

[Earth Knack: Stone Age Skills for the 21st Century](#) (Peregrine Books - Gibbs Smith 1996)

P.O.#508 Crestone Colorado 81131

719 256 4909

earthknackschool@gmail.com

<http://www.earthknack.com/>



Dear RMS family & friends,
~ Live What You Love ~

All classes held at Reeves Mountain School include hearty meals fresh from the homestead, class supplies, hot showers, and campsite. Camping is free, or stay in a yurpee (\$10 per night per person), single cabin (\$25 per night, sleeps 1), or double cabin (\$50 per night, sleeps 1-2+), availability permitting. We provide complimentary shuttle service from Roosevelt, AZ, or caravan in your own 4X4. Shuttle pickup is at 4 p.m., first day of class.

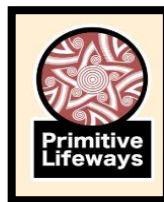
Please see our [website](#) to enroll and to get more information
Sign up online!

www.reevismountain.org/classes

Order all your favorite Reeves Mountain Remedies online!

www.reevismountain.org/country-store

Blessings, Peter Bigfoot & the RMS Interns



Visit the Primitive Lifeways Store!

The Primitive Lifeways store is up and running. This month we are featuring new merchandise including beautifully crafted prehistoric replica pottery and jewelry. We are still selling stickers for less than a cup of coffee at Starbucks. By purchasing our new merchandise, you are helping us educate the public on archaeological preservation and the

sharing of free information.

[Click Here](#) to visit our store.

Jeff Martin

Jeff@primitivelifeways.com

Volunteers Needed for City of Phoenix Park Steward Program



The City of Phoenix Park Steward Program is looking for volunteers to help maintain, clean, and preserve our trails. Help make a difference in your community!

Visit volunteer.phoenix.gov to apply or reach out to 602-495-5458 for more information on how to get involved!

"Knowledge is not complete
until it is passed on."
Steve Watts



"They describe the end of the ice age as the Big Brownout. They lost more than 10,000 tonnes of mammoth steaks."



ATTENTION

S.A.L.T. Members and Associates!

Please send in pictures and articles for this newsletter! Send in information on projects you are working on, information you have found on primitive skills, pictures from trips to archaeological sites, etc.

Send it to saltskills@gmail.com



STONE AGE TECHNOLOGY FROM PRIMITIVE WAYS

ALSO, THINK ABOUT TEACHING ONE OF OUR SKILLS CLASSES!

Contact Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910

2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE!

SINGLE \$20.00 or FAMILY \$40.00

Please pay at a Skills Meeting or mail them to
S.A.L.T. Treasurer,

TAMARA TADANO

12840 N. 45th Drive, Glendale, AZ 85304

Please make the check out to Tamara Tadano

Or Zelle Tamara at 602-920-8228

S.A.L.T. MEMBERSHIP ITEMS

The Tan "Fishing Shirt" Style S.A.L.T. Membership Shirts are available by pre-order. Please contact Charlie Tadano to order your Shirt at 602-524-6910

**NEW BLACK S.A.L.T. T-SHIRTS,
LONG SLEEVED SHIRTS, HOODIES**



**And NEW LEATHER S.A.L.T.
PATCHES are available!**

(Special pricing for members) S.A.L.T. PATCHES \$5.00
(Memberships receive one free)

S.A.L.T. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Website: www.saltskills.com

e-mail address: saltskills@gmail.com

For MEMBERSHIP information call Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910 or Bob Sizemore at 520-705-9780 or e-mail saltskills@gmail.com

For EVENTS and BEAD information contact Donna Moses at 602-384-1359 or saltdonna1@gmail.com

For S.A.L.T. e-Newsletter or Website info contact Laura Robins, Editor at 623-533-0847 or e-mail saltskills@gmail.com