

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](http://www.saltskills.com)

[saltskills@gmail.com](mailto:saltskills@gmail.com)

Charlie Tadano, President

Ron Moses, Vice President

Jennifer Ahumada, Secretary

Laura Robins, Treasurer / Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

Donna Moses, Events / Bead Chairperson

Volume 17, Issue 4

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

## S.A.L.T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18**

**10 am - 2 pm**

**at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM**

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

### S.A.L.T. SKILL# 3 FRICTION FIRE

**Make an Egyptian Bow Drill with Tom Wax**

**FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO MADE AN ATLATL IN FEBRUARY AND AN  
ATLATL DART IN MARCH AND HAVEN'T COMPLETED THEM, PLEASE  
BRING THEM TO THE APRIL SKILLS MEETING TO FINISH AND TRY  
OUT AT THE ATLATL RANGE!**

*S.A.L.T. Quarterly Board Meeting after Skills Classes*

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Saturday, May 16 SKILLS MEETING at SVM - S.A.L.T. SKILL #24  
DECORATION - Make an Argillite Pendant with Charlie Tadano

WORLD ATLATL DAY Saturday, June 6

Saturday, June 20 SKILLS MEETING at SVM - S.A.L.T. SKILL #21  
FISHHOOKS & TOOLS - Make a BONE FISHHOOK with Ron Moses

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

*All S.A.L.T. Members make sure Laura 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 (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.

It was part of the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department since 1929, but is now Arts & Culture, it's the largest preserved archaeological site in Phoenix.

**4619 E. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034 (602) 495-0901**  
[www.svmuseum@phoenix.gov](http://www.svmuseum@phoenix.gov)

- 4/2/26: "Parched: The Art of Water in the Southwest" documentary screening, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm
- 4/9/26: Archaeology Café, 5:00 pm-8:00 pm
- 4/18/26 SALT Skills, 9:00 - 2:00 pm
- 4/18/26: "Harmony: Balancing Past & Present" A Indigenous Sonoran Desert Experience, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm [Click here for tickets!](#)
- 5/7/26 "Parched: Life Extended with Debra Edgerton

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

*Steve Watts*





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

SKILL	Apprentice Level Level I	Apprentice Level Level II	Apprentice Level 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

**DON'T MISS THE APRIL 2026  
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING  
SATURDAY, APRIL 18 10 am - 2 pm**

**S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS, the S.A.L.T.  
DRUMMING CIRCLE, & WIRE WRAPPERS  
meet at 9 am**

**S.A.L.T. Quarterly Board Meeting after Skills Classes**

SKILL	Apprentice Level Level I	Apprentice Level Level II	Apprentice Level Level III
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

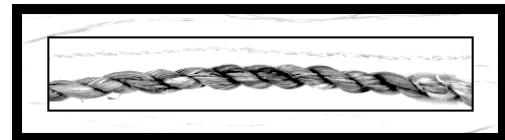
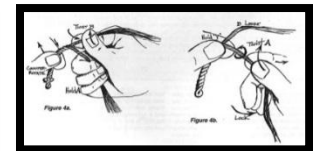
**SKILL #1 CUTTING TOOL: Level I**

*Make a flake and discoidal blade.*



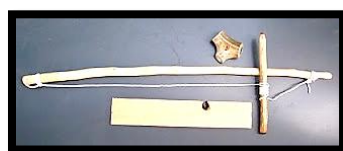
**SKILL #2 CORDAGE: Level I**

*Make a uniform 3-foot length of cordage.*



**S.A.L.T. SKILL #3**

**FRICION FIRE – Make an Egyptian Bow Drill with Tom Wax**



**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!

# SVM ANCIENT TECH DAY

Saturday, March 14 9 - 3 pm



Charlie and Luis



FLINT KNAPPING



Ron, Sherry, and Donna



Noah teaching RABBITSTICK



Jesse, Burt, and Bill



Don



RABBITSTICK RANGE



Tamara

ATLATL RANGE



Luis teaching PRIMITIVE BOW



Sam, Carlos, Carol, and Dalen taught Atlatl Throwing



Jennifer BEADING



Laura and Charlie DRUMMING



Luis and Carol



Almost 100 Mammoth Hunting Licenses were given out!



BASKET MAKING



Atlatl fore shafts



Bill teaching CORDAGE



DROP SPINDLE

SEVERAL ANCIENT TECH DEMOS AND DISPLAYS



LACE MAKING



WEAVING



POTTERY



BRICK MAKING

# MARCH 2026 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, March 21, 2026

**Board Members in attendance:** Charlie & Tamara Tadano, Laura Robins, Bob Sizemore, Tom Wax, Bill Warner, Jennifer Ahumada, and Don Raker

**Members in attendance:** Luis & Noah Ahumada, Jax, Diane Wax, Mari & Dalen Townsend, Carol Schroeter, Reena Nickel, Linda Jolle, Carlos Acuna, Sam Sargent, Jesse Parra, Molly Fraley, Dan, Lisa, & Neil Alexander, Shelly LeSueur, Jasmine Peng, and Eva Liu

**Welcome New Member Burt Toannon!**

**Guests:** Geoff Adams, Ernie Verrue, and Grace LeSueur

## S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS and DRUMMERS and WIRE WRAPPERS meet 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



Jesse, Bill, Tom, Carlos, and Luis



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



S.A.L.T. President Charlie & Bob opened the meeting

## S.A.L.T. SKILL #19 ATLATLS & DARTS – Make an Atlatl Dart with Charlie and Bob

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
19. Atlatls / Darts	Successfully throw both a training and traditional atlatl	Make your own atlatl and dart and hit a target at least 3 out of 5 times	Make a primitive atlatl and dart with & out of primitive materials / hit target 3 out of 5 times



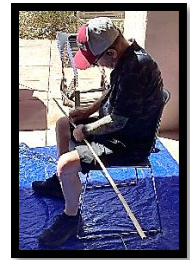
Bob and Charlie had both arrow weed and fragmati for the darts



Molly and Bob



Carol heat-straightening her Atlatl Dart



Alexander family at work!



Carol, Noah, and Reena



Eva and Jasmine



Eva and Jasmine



Noah



Reena



Charlie teaching Fletching



Tamara & Carol



Thank you to everyone who brought delicious goodies for our Potluck!

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

MT. FLOYD Volcanic Field  
Saturday, March 28, 2026  
by Bill Warner

Some pics of our rock run to the Mt. Floyd volcanic field in northern AZ Saturday for some knapping rock.



Tyler and Jesse



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

WINTER COUNT CLASSES  
by Ron Moses

Back from an awesome week of learning, sharing, and mentoring in the Sonoran Desert with an amazing group of people. I led five different skills workshops, including: processing Agave leaves into fibers, two Parfleche workshops; knife sheaths and tribute belt pouches, flutes made from Sotol stalks, and a day of ancient games.

[wanderingwithmoses](https://www.instagram.com/wanderingwithmoses)



# BETWEEN THE RIVERS GATHERING

May 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026



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(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](mailto:patrickf@bridgestothepast.org)

[Betweentheriversgathering.com](http://betweentheriversgathering.com)

Hi folks, I'll be renting furnished and unfurnished Yurts and Bell tents again this year. Included is a community Kitchen yurt or shade cloud to store your cooler and will also include cooking tables, stoves & pans etc.

See between the river's website for more info.

Prices for the whole week are \$300 unfurnished, \$400 furnished. Call or email [CampingYurts.com](http://CampingYurts.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](mailto:kandiscreated@gmail.com)  
509-994-0585 cell . @kandis created  
(Instagram)



FALL CAMP for ANCESTRAL SKILLS  
October 8- 11, 2026

[Fall Camp Website](#)



## 38<sup>TH</sup> RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho

SEPTEMBER 13 – 19, 2026

Rabbitstick Primitive Skills Gathering, held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 -5- 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](http://www.rabbitstick.com)

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

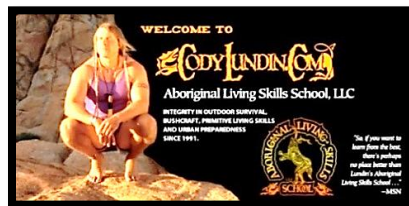
Rabbitstick | (208) 359-2400 | [backtracks905@gmail.com](mailto:backtracks905@gmail.com) | [societyofprimitivetech@gmail.com](mailto:societyofprimitivetech@gmail.com)



Bulletin of Primitive Technology website at - [primitive.org](http://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>

### THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE LESS YOU NEED



[www.codylundin.com](http://www.codylundin.com) [abodude@codylundin.com](mailto: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](#)

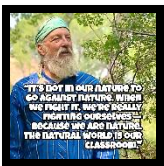
[Woods](#) (Gibbs Smith, Publisher 2016)

[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](mailto:earthknackschool@gmail.com) <http://www.earthknack.com/>

### Primitive wilderness survival

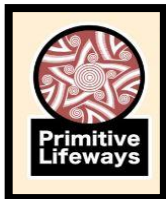


"It's not in our nature to go against nature. When we fight it, we're really fighting ourselves — because we are nature. The natural world is our classroom. We're part of the pattern, the organizers of our own experience. We recognize beauty in every sense because it's woven into who we are." -Holladave  
Talked to Holladay and we've decided to open up a few more spots to the sold out "Echoes of the ancestors" class this February!

We have a massive venue and both of us are teaching so we're going to allow 4 more students in!

Message me to snag your spot or check out the link in my bio. – Dave Wescott

[oSedptsnor3M8I92: 4hA5145uf227m5a0ca56I96tc7oNmacmb1f i7eer0v](https://www.facebook.com/earthknack/)



### 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](mailto:Jeff@primitivelifeways.com)



7448 S. J-B Ranch Rd.  
Roosevelt, AZ 85545  
[www.reevismountain.org](http://www.reevismountain.org)

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

All classes held at Reevis 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](http://www.reevismountain.org/classes)

Order all your favorite Reevis Mountain Remedies online!

[www.reevismountain.org/country-store](http://www.reevismountain.org/country-store)

Blessings, Peter Bigfoot & the RMS Interns



## WINTER COUNT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

**FEBRUARY 14-22, 2027**

**REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 1, 2026**

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](mailto:WinterCountCamp@gmail.com)

[www.WinterCountCamp.com](http://www.WinterCountCamp.com)

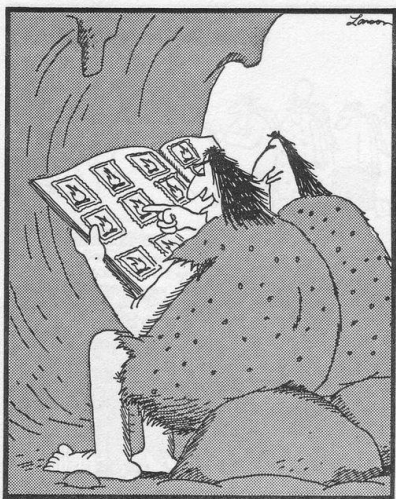
Please call Charlie if you want a S.A.L.T. 25th Anniversary T-shirt for \$18.50 at 602-524-6910. Only 4 left!



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



**IMAGINE US IN  
THE STONE AGE**



"Ooo! Now here's a nice one we built last fall."

**ATTENTION**

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

Please send 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](mailto: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

**2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

are due!

**SINGLE \$20.00 or FAMILY \$40.00**

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

**LAURA ROBINS**

1922 W. Kristal Way, Phoenix, AZ 85027

Please make the check out to Laura Robins

or Zelle Laura Robins at 623-533-0847

**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

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



**And 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](http://www.saltskills.com)

e-mail address:

[saltskills@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:saltskills@gmail.com)

For EVENTS and BEAD information contact Donna Moses at 602-384-1359 or [saltdonna1@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:saltskills@gmail.com)