



# 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 Tom Wax, Vice President  
Laura Robins, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster

Jennifer Ahumada, Secretary Tamara Tadano, Treasurer  
Donna Moses, Events / Bead Chairperson

Volume 11, Issue 4

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

## S. A. L. T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

**APRIL SKILLS MEETING IS  
CANCELLED!**

at PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM

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

**HOPEFULLY PGM WILL  
RE-OPEN IN MAY!**

### UPCOMING 2020 MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> SKILLS MEETING at PGM ?  
SKILL #14 Baskets with Bob Sizemore  
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS

Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> WORLD ATLATL DAY at PGM ?

Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> SKILLS MEETING at PGM ?  
SKILL #3 TOOLS

**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 PMG!*



**THE APRIL 18<sup>th</sup> SKILLS MEETING HAS  
BEEN CANCELLED!**

**SKILL #19 ATLATL DARTS**

with Charlie Tadano

**WILL BE RESCHEDULED LATER THIS YEAR!**

**THE MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup> SKILLS MEETING WAS ALSO  
CANCELLED**



March 13, 2020

Due to coronavirus concerns, Pueblo Grande Museum will be cancelling all programming, events, tours, lectures, and meeting through the end of April.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

**Laura Andrew**, Visitor Services Supervisor  
City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation  
Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park  
Office: 602-495-0901

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



**DON'T MISS THE MAY 2020  
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING???**  
Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm



## SKILL #14 BASKETS

with Bob Sizemore



Fish Trap



Twig Basket

at PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM  
4619 E. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034  
[\(602\) 495-0901](tel:6024950901)

## HOMEWORK

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

While you are looking for something to do at home... please go to our S.A.L.T. Website, [www.saltskills.com](http://www.saltskills.com) and scroll way down to the bottom beyond CONTACT US and open the S.A.L.T. SKILLS pdf under S.A.L.T. INFO. Look through all the skills and please e-mail us the ones you are interested in learning to [saltskills@gmail.com](mailto:saltskills@gmail.com) We can include "How To" information in our newsletters and on the website.

THANK YOU!!!

**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
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

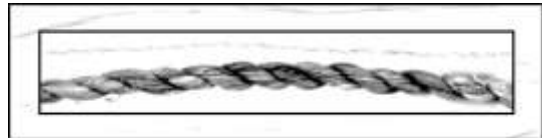
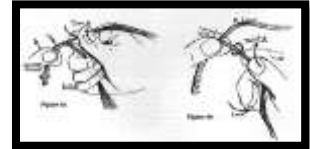
### SKILL #1 CUTTING TOOL: Level I

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 and skills 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!



# MARCH 11, 2020 S.A.L.T. SKILLS DEMOS at PMG for Legacy Traditional School

S.A.L.T. did an event at Pueblo Grande Museum in the rain for 130 3rd and 4th graders from Legacy Traditional School where Tamara Tadano is a teacher.



Charlie Tadano talked about primitive weapons.



Tom Wax was able to do friction fire in the rain!



Steven Hall taught finger weaving.



Peter Huegel gave a talk on ancient times.

# MARCH 21, 2020

## S.A.L.T. SKILLS AT HOME

by Tom Wax

To all my S.A..L.T./ primitive/bushcraft friends –

Normally, the third Saturday of each month is the S.A.L.T. Skills Meeting at the Pueblo Grande Museum, but with Coronavirus Social Distancing in effect, everything has changed.

We can work on skills at home and put our down time to good use.

Here are a few of the many things you can do at home if you have the supplies:



#1: make a friction fire (I can even have a campfire in my yard since I live in county area)



#2: Carve a wooden spoon, make a gourd bowl.



#3: make a pine needle basket or other types of baskets.



I started making a pine needle basket and decided to continue making it for however long the Coronavirus quarantines, etc. lasts. I wonder how big it is going to be?



#4: You can do some Flint Knapping.



#5: Make a hiking staff, or carve or embellish the hiking staff you have.

The list can go on: It is only limited to your imagination and supplies.

But the most important thing we do is can share our skills to those who live in fear right now and to stay in contact with your friends, we are all in this together, no matter how far apart we live from each other.



## **THESE ARE SCARY TIMES, SOME GUIDELINES TO STAY SAFE**

You've probably heard all of these at some point this week, but it's all good information worth repeating:

1. Don't touch people outside of your home. They'll understand. It's OK to be the awkward one right now.
2. Use the back of your hand or your knuckle to turn all switches, buttons, etc in public places.
3. Pump gas using a disposable glove or tissue and sanitize your hands when you get back in the car.
4. Use automatic door openers when available. Use elbow or wrist to open doors. Back through doors when possible.
5. Wash hands frequently or use hand sanitizer that is alcohol based whenever you've been somewhere where others have been.
6. Keep a bottle of hand sanitizer or wipes in your car and clean your hands each time you get in and before entering the house.
7. Try your best not to touch your face. We do it all day and aren't aware. Touching your face is likely how one would contract the virus.
8. Limit social outings to only what is necessary. Work from home if that is an option. BUG IN as much as you can stand right now.
9. Exercise and health are synonymous. Spending time outside hiking, biking, practicing skills, foraging, and more is highly recommended!
10. A friend of mine in the medical profession who is on the front-lines of COVID-19 recommends also letting all of that fresh outside air INSIDE as well. It's always good in these cases to let your house breathe by opening up some windows.
11. Sleep is your immune system's friend. Try to get lots of it.
12. Social isolation can affect mental health. Reach out to one another by phone, e-mail or texting. Being alone doesn't have to be lonely.

Most importantly, be especially vigilant when interacting with the elderly or those at high risk. Even if you don't feel remotely sick, it's not worth the risk. If you're helping an elderly neighbor or someone you know with food or supply deliveries, be sure to wipe down the packaging with a disinfecting wipe and also encourage them to thoroughly wash all fruits and vegetables.

If you're not helping an elderly neighbor, consider it, so they don't have to leave for supplies.



Dear friends and family of the gathering community,

This past week has been one of the strangest I can remember as measures have been put in place to control the coronavirus. With over 2 months remaining until Between the Rivers anything can change and we are hopeful that we are able to gather with you at the end of May in warmer weather and brighter days. Our greatest concern is for the health and wellbeing of our people!

We are planning to wait until the first of May before making any official decisions about our course of action for BtR 2020. We understand everyone's situation is different and we will do what we can to help you, or refund you in full if you are unable to attend. In the event that emergency measures prevent us from holding the gathering this year we will refund everyone in full, and we will begin planning for next year.

Stay well and we hope to see you all near the end of May!

Warmest regards,  
Patrick & the BtR Family

**May 25th - May 30th, 2020**

**Primitive Skills for Self-Sufficiency**

**Northeastern Washington Ancestral Skills & Self-Sufficiency Gathering**

### **Between the Rivers Gathering**

is a week-long workshop for learning skills that originate in the stone-age all the way up to modern homesteading. 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, primitive and homespun living, basic preparedness and skills of a practical and archeological nature.

We offer **hands-on classes in primitive 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 a primitive skills gathering is all about!

**Come and experience the entire week with us!**

To register click [here](#).

Day registration click [here](#).

Other [Primitive Skills Gatherings](#)

[BtR T-Shirt](#)

Day rates available, too!

Burning questions that can't wait? Contact

us: [patrickf@bridgestothepast.org](mailto:patrickf@bridgestothepast.org)



# 33<sup>RD</sup> RABBITSTICK SEPTEMBER 13 - 19, 2020

in Rexburg, Idaho

**"Rabbitstick is the Mother Church  
of Primitive Technology"**

-Steve Watts, Past President of the Society of Primitive Technology

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](http://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!

[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>



## WINTER COUNT

February 7 - 13, 2021 AT THE BOULDERS!

About 1/2 hour east of Florence, AZ on the East Florence-Kelvin Highway which is just south of Florence off Hwy. 79.

Winter Count

2119 Calle Tecolote

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Winter Count 505-570-9484

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

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

## 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](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

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





7448 S. J-B Ranch Rd.  
Roosevelt, AZ 85545

[www.reevismountain.org](http://www.reevismountain.org)



### Our Farm and Sanctuary

Reevis Mountain School began in 1980 as a community focused on self-sufficiency and the teaching of survival skills. Today it is a more quiet place: a sanctuary, organic farm, and off-grid homestead. Nature has endowed this remote canyon with paradise-like features: a year-round creek, two underground springs, and an altitude (3,300 feet) that takes much of the misery out of Arizona summers. Human effort has added an orchard of one hundred fruit and nut trees, a one-acre garden, a flock of some fifty chickens, a greenhouse, a community house, a beautiful native stone shower house, a solar power house, and shelters including a teepee, cabins, and yurpees (Bigfoot's design, a combination of teepee and yurt).

Our first-rate "Nature's Classroom" is enjoyed by a permanent staff of two and a varying number of interns and retreat seekers. It is cherished by those wishing to experience a place free from most modern-day pollutants (including cell phones!) and to reconnect with Earth, Self, and Spirit. Visitors rave about the wholesome, nourishing, and tasty meals, featuring fresh, organically home-grown ingredients prepared with love.

**What to bring:** Camping gear or, with yurpee reservation, a sleeping bag or bedding; water bottle; sun-protective hat; flashlight or headlamp; battery-powered lamp (optional); sunglasses; towel and toiletries. Also: openness, appreciation, and desire to learn. The temperature at RMS is usually about 12 degrees cooler than Phoenix, and nights can be cool in the spring and fall—bring warm clothing.

**What to leave at home:** Drugs, alcohol, firearms, smoking materials, electronic equipment, pets, junk food, and negative attitudes.

### Registration

Visit [www.reevismountain.org](http://www.reevismountain.org) to register online. Or mail your name, phone number, postal and email addresses, and a 50% deposit (check or money order) to RMS, 7448 S. J-B Ranch Rd., Roosevelt, AZ 85545. Indicate whether you will need our free shuttle service from Roosevelt and/or wish to stay in a yurpee or cabin instead of camping. Balance due prior to class. *Deposits are nonrefundable unless RMS reschedules or cancels the class.*

**Early Registration:** 10% discount if you register with full payment 30 days prior to class date.

### Important Information

**Classes held at RMS include:** meals (arrival night meals are a potluck party—bring a healthful, natural dish to share!), class supplies, hot showers, and campsite. Camping is free, or stay in a yurpee (shared, \$10/night/pers.) or cabin (single \$25/night or double \$50/night).

**Class fee includes shuttle service** from Roosevelt—or caravan in your own 4X4. Shuttle pickup is at 4 p.m., first day of class (note exception for Stone Masonry), at M&S Marine, Hwy. 188, Roosevelt (between mile posts 233 & 234). Further details will be provided after registration.

**For more information,** please contact us—see below.

Reevis Mountain School of Self-Reliance  
7448 S. J-B Ranch Rd., Roosevelt, AZ 85545  
(928) 257-1544 [info@reevismountain.org](mailto:info@reevismountain.org)  
[www.reevismountain.org](http://www.reevismountain.org)

PRECURSOR



WE'RE NOT HIRING HUNTERS RIGHT NOW.  
ANY GATHERING EXPERIENCE?



The Cougar Shadow appears in the Superstitions every year.

# S.A.L.T. STORE

T-SHIRTS & PATCHES will be available at all S.A.L.T. Skill Meetings



S.A.L.T. T-SHIRTS are available in all sizes at \$20.00 each  
(Special pricing for Members)



S.A.L.T. PATCHES \$5.00 each  
(Memberships receive one free)



Have a place to store and carry all of your S.A.L.T. Projects and Tools! \$15.00 each  
(Special price for members)  
Call Charlie for availability on Totes  
602-524-6910

**"Primitive (first) skills are our shared inheritance. It is the shared thread which links us to our prehistory and binds us together as human beings." Steve Watts**

## 2020 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

**SINGLE \$12.00 & FAMILY \$24.00**  
(New memberships are pro-rated throughout the year)

Please bring it to the next Skills Meeting or mail them to S.A.L.T. Treasurer,

**TAMARA TADANO**  
12840 N. 45<sup>th</sup> Drive  
Glendale, AZ 85304

Please make the check out to  
**Tamara Tadano**

### 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

**S.A.L.T. T-SHIRTS and S.A.L.T. PATCHES are still available!**

**There may be some Tote Bags, too.**

The S.A.L.T. "Sonoran Desert, Sorting out the Weak" T-SHIRT is available to anyone interested for \$15.00 each. They will be available at most S.A.L.T. Monthly Skill Meetings and Events until they are gone. (Only a few left!)

### 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)