

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 15, Issue 4 S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024

S.A.L.T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING
SATURDAY, APRIL 20th
 10 am – 2 pm
at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM

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

S.A.L.T. SKILL #10 FELTING/FIBERS
 with Susan Jeffay

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

AZ ARCHAEOLOGY EXPO, SATURDAY, APRIL 6th
 10 am – 2 pm SAN TAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM, Queen Creek

Saturday, May 18th SKILLS MEETING at SVM
 S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 DECORATION – Argillite Jewelry with Charlie
S.A.L.T. QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS SKILLS CLASS

WORLD ATLATL DAY Saturday, June 1st
 9 am - Noon at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM

Saturday, June 15th SKILLS MEETING at SVM
 S.A.L.T. SKILL #12 CONTAINERS – Rawhide Containers with Justin Sowden

**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!*

~TAKING THE PAST AND GIVING IT A FUTURE~



at 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.

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

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

Sending Their Ancestors Home



Exploring the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, thirty years later and still striving for healing.

Exhibit Opens June 22, 2023 through May 2024

S'edav Va'aki Museum
Formerly Pueblo Grande Museum
4619 E. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602) 495-0901 | www.pueblogrande.com
pueblo.grande.museum_pk3@phoenix.gov



《 》 BETWEEN THE RIVERS GATHERING 《 》

Registration Opens April 1st for returning students
& April 7th for NEW students!



Are you interested in work-trade opportunities?
Email Mullein, There are limited spaces available!

Kitchen and work crew members, please register as "Work Trade Deposit"
(this must be arranged with Mullein prior to purchasing)

Email Mullein [HERE](#)

Attention all S.A.L.T. Members and prospective members!

ARIZONA ARCHAEOLOGY EXPO
SATURDAY, APRIL 6th 10 am – 2 pm
<https://azarchsoc.org/SanTan>

ARCHAEOLOGY MINI EXPO:
LEARNING ABOUT THE PAST THROUGH ARCHAEOLOGY



FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES





FIRE STARTING
ADOBE BRICKS
SHELL ETCHING
SITE STEWARDSHIP
PUMP DRILL
SAFE HIKING SKILLS
ANCIENT WEAPONRY
FLINTNAPPING
POTTERY MAKING
& MUCH MORE!



PRESENTED BY:
THE SAN TAN CHAPTER OF THE AZ ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
APRIL 6, 2024 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
SAN TAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM
20425 S OLD ELLSWORTH RD, QUEEN CREEK
PARKING IS BEHIND MUSEUM

LOOK FOR OUR S.A.L.T. POSTER IN THE MUSEUM LOBBY!




WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN ANCIENT SKILLS?
Everyone is welcome to join our S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETINGS
at SEDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
on the third Saturday of every month for free instruction of ancient skills!



*** You are here today because YOUR ancestors knew these things.***

We need many hands for Skills Demos and to man the Atlatl Range as it is always a very popular activity. Mark the day on your calendar and make plans to be there. Call Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910 or Bob Sizemore at 520-705-9780 to sign up to help. Thank you!



**DON'T MISS THE MARCH 2024
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING
Saturday, April 20th
10 am - 2 pm**

(Remember to bring something for the Potluck Brunch!)

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

**S.A.L.T. SKILL #10 FELTING / FIBERS
with Susan Jeffay**

| SKILL | Apprentice Level I | Apprentice Level II | Apprentice Level III |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| 10. Felting / Fibers | Take a class and make a hat or use a drop spindle to make yarn | Take a class and make mittens or a vest | Make a hat, mittens, or a vest on your own |

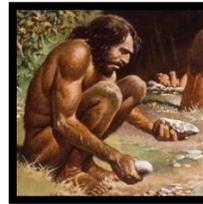
Archaeological finds dating back to 6500-3000 in Turkey and Russia suggest that early humans had developed skills in processing wool into usable items, i.e. "felt making" or "wet felting" This presentation on Saturday will briefly discuss this process and participants will have an opportunity to try a newer, decorative wool technique, called "needle felting." Equipment will be provided but small kits will also be available for purchase.



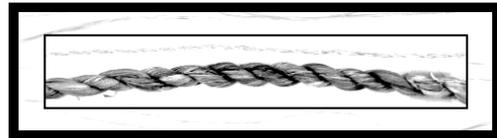
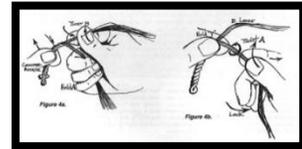
**LEVEL I of SKILLS 1, 2 and 3
INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AT EVERY SKILL
MEETING DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER...**

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

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Board Members in attendance: Charlie & Tamara Tadano, Laura Robins, Bob & Carol Sizemore, Jennifer Ahumada, and Peter Huegel

Members in attendance: Arturo Ramirez, Luis & Noah Ahumada, Don Raker, Sue Roxburgh, Carol Schroeter, Dalen & Mari Townsend, Shelly LeSueur, Linda Jolle, Aurora Oberloh, Justin Sowden, Lanly Le, Russell, Jodee & Bingham Hortin, Carlos Acuna, Susan Jeffay, Reena Zapata, Billy Nickel, Lindsey Gardner, Brian Calaway, Carol, Chanana & Awak McGarry, and Jadis Jones

Guests: Conrad Colollero, and Charlie Nidever

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 |



| 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 |



Lot's of kids joined the Drumming Circle!

S.A.L.T. SKILL #12 CONTAINERS GOURD BOWLS

with Gourd Master Arturo Ramirez

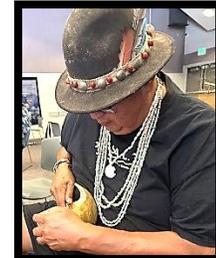
| SKILL | Apprentice Level I | Apprentice Level II | Apprentice Level III |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 12. Containers Agave / Gourds | Gather the materials and clean inside and outside | Make agave container and gourd bowl or canteen | Decorate or embellish Container, Bowl, or Canteen |



S.A.L.T. President Charlie Tadano opens the Skills Class



Great Class Arturo Ramirez!



So, which came first? Painted pottery or painted gourds? If you said, "Painted pottery" slap yourself on the forehead and shout out, "I would have known the correct answer if only I had attended the SALT skills meeting Saturday at S'egav Va'aki Museum - formerly Pueblo Grande Museum in Phoenix".

It was a GREAT meeting led by Arturo Ramirez, one of our Salt brothers. A man who truly has talent on loan from God. His artistic creations whether painting on gourds or carving intricate images on gourds is unbelievable. In a recent competition he was declared a "Grand Master" for the work he submitted.

However, he does not feel comfortable being introduced that way even though he deserves the title.

We had a large crowd today and everyone was taught how to take a dried-out gourd and turn it into a useful bowl which they can now take and decorate as they see fit. Painting? Carving a design?

Thanks to Arturo's teaching I have made two gourd bowls in the past. I decided to do carvings of ancient symbols on mine.



Please be aware that I may have altered the backgrounds a bit on a couple of the photos. – Peter Huegel



Peter



Katie, Carol, and Bob



Works in progress



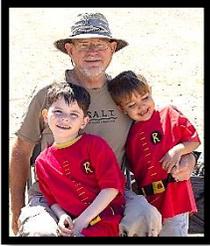
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO BROUGHT FOOD FOR THE DELICIOUS POTLUCK BRINCH!

ANCIENT TECH DAY at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM!

Saturday, March 9, 2024, 9am - 3pm



March is Archelogy Month in Arizona. S.A.L.T. helped put on this event with other organizations at S'edav Va'aki Museum (Pueblo Grande). Here are some photos from our S.A.L.T. group presentation. I have no photographs of me making fire demonstrations, but I made 11 Hand-Drills, 6 Bow Drills, 3 Sub Arctic Strap Drills and one Marcasite, tree fungus and flint. – Tom Wax



Jax, Tom and Noah



S.A.L.T. awarded over 100 Mammoth Hunting Licenses at the event!



At the Ancient Technology Day Saturday at 'S'edav Va'aki Museum - formerly Pueblo Grande Museum. In one of the photos, I am doing my best to teach a mom and her son how to hunt using an Atlatl. In the other I am explaining to two young men that next Saturday (March 16) SALT will be teaching the skill of making useful items out of old dried gourds. I was showing them two bowls I had previously made.



Jennifer Ahumada

There were various craftsmen demonstrating their skills at rawhide drum making, basketry production, lace making and adobe brick making!



Bill Warner



Luis Ahumada

SALT was there showing the various items we have made in our skills classes and demonstrating how to make fire the primitive way, acid etching shell jewelry, flint knapping (making arrowheads), as well as teaching people how to hunt with an Atlatl (ancient style spear thrower).

I had guests from two different parts of Canada, Michigan, Ohio, South Carolina, and all over Arizona stop by my displays.



Bison Black Bean Diné Taco 13
Frybread topped with our grass-fed bison & organic black beans chili with hints of smoked chilies and cacao, organic spinach, heirloom cherry tomatoes, organic radishes, organic red onions

And then there was the food. A Dine' (aka Navajo) chef was selling different kinds of Fry Bread. Since I was wearing my antique (about 150-years-old) Bison tooth, turquoise and silver bead necklace, I had to go for the fry bread meal with Bison meat.



It was awesome! I got to enjoy eating it on a table under a Paolo-Verde tree beside the 1,500-year-old S'edav Va'aki Mound. It does not get any better than that. --Peter Huegel



Charlie Tadano



Laura Robins

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

BEAVER CREEK HERITAGE DAYS at V-V Ranch Petroglyphs 3/16-17/24 by Ron Moses

Donna, Al Cornell, and I hosted a SALT booth on Saturday and Sunday, at the Beaver Creek Heritage Days site near Rimrock, AZ. You might know the location as V bar V Ranch Petroglyphs now named The Crane Petroglyph Heritage Site.



Our S.A.L.T. outreach booth at the newly named Crane Petroglyph Heritage Site [Ron Moses](#), Sylvia, and I. There were 500 visitors over 2 days. The weather was a little interesting.



Cob Darts



Agave processing



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

Otzi the Iceman's Dagger by Peter Huegel



Ötzi the Iceman's 5,200-year-old dagger. Ötzi owned a functional dagger and a wicker sheath to keep it. His dagger is the only fully preserved dagger from the Copper Age. Ötzi's 13 cm dagger has a flint blade and an ash wood handle. The blade was forced into the wooden handle and bound with animal sinew. A string was attached to the end of the handle. The 12 cm sheath is made from lime tree bast. On the side of the sheath is a leather eyelet, presumably used to attach the dagger to the belt. The sheath is considerably larger than the dagger blade, which is very small, hardly bigger than an arrowhead, perhaps because it was often resharpened. To sharpen his flint tool, Ötzi used a retoucher to remove tiny fragments. Tests have shown that the flint came from Trentino (Italy). (Museo Archeologico dell'Alto Adige)

Battle Axe Found at Clonmore, County Carlow. Dated 1900-1700 bc.



An extraordinary object from Clonmore, this is considered to be the most accomplished of all Irish Battle Axes. Thirteen narrow axes were found in this category, made from a wide range of igneous and metamorphic rock. Examples have been found at Creggs, Galway, Inisheer in the Aran Islands in the west and Tomacurry, Wexford in the south-east, as well as in the north of Ireland. They were created by pecking, grinding and subsequent polishing to an almost glass-like finish to produce the flange in false relief. Some have suggested that the extremely narrow hole for a shaft indicates that the axe-head was never intended to be mounted.

“Knowledge is not complete
until it is passed on.”
Steve Watts



《 》 BETWEEN THE RIVERS GATHERING 《 》

May 27th – June 1st, 2024



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 5011(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)



36TH RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho

SEPTEMBER 15 – 21, 2024

Registration opens in February 2024

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



WINTER COUNT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
FEBRUARY 16-22, 2025

REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 1, 2024

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

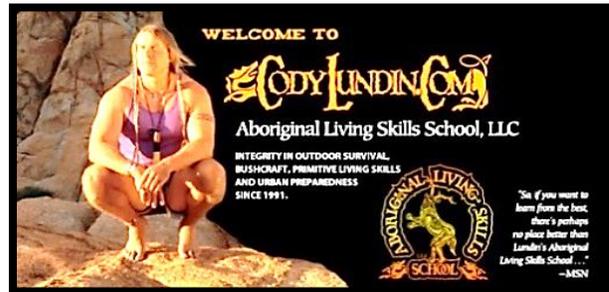
369 Montezuma Avenue, #326, Santa Fe, NM 87501

WinterCountCamp@gmail.com
www.WinterCountCamp.com



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>



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

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)

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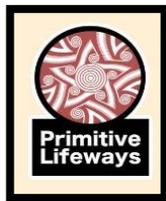
Dear RMS family & friends,
~ Live What You Love ~

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

Order all your favorite Reevis 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



NEED YOUR HELP!

Jax's Project has been growing by leaps and bounds! He has had the opportunity to touch the lives of 185 Veterans who are transitioning from homeles to healing. If you would like to help, put bags together, supply items, or donate money for supplies, you can partner with Jax in honoring these Veterans.

Please call Tamara if you can help at 602-920-8228. The website is:

www.americanveteransranch.org

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

2024 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,

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 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

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