



# 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 2

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

## S. A. L. T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

**SATURDAY, FEB. 15<sup>th</sup>**

10 am – 2 pm

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS

### SKILL # 1 DISCOIDAL BLADES

Make flakes & blades with Charlie Tadano

at **PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM**

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

### UPCOMING 2020 MEETINGS & EVENTS:

February 9<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> WINTER COUNT

Conference of Primitive Skills, see pg. 3

Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> SAN TAN EVENT

S.A.L.T. DEMOS Call Donna if you can help out!

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> DEMOS EVENT

for Legacy Traditional School 4<sup>th</sup> Graders at PGM

Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> ANCIENT TECH DAY at PGM

Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> SKILLS MEETING at PGM

Demos and Games for Archaeology Month

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> SKILLS MEETING at PGM

SKILL #19 Atlatl Darts with Charlie Tadano

**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!*



## FAREWELL ALBERT, 'TIL WE MEET AGAIN...



### Albert Hiralez ABRIL III

Albert H. Abril III passed away at home on Sunday, January 12, 2020. He was 66 years old and a native Arizonan. He was born on October 15, 1953. Albert served in the Air Force as a firefighter and upon leaving the Air Force joined the Phoenix Fire Department in 1979 where he served until his retirement in 1999.



While serving with the fire department he met the love of his life Joyce and they were married in 1988. After his retirement Albert enjoyed a wide range of activities, many of which he enjoyed in the Arizona desert that he loved so much.

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



Albert was a wonderful and patient teacher. He taught many classes from weaving with various fibers to primitive skills.



He was a valued partner with many organizations including the Pueblo Grande Museum, Botanical Gardens, Fiber Factory, Indian Market and the SALT group.



He taught weaving at several primitive skills gatherings, Winter Count and Rabbitstick in both Arizona and Idaho.



Albert is preceded in death by his mother, Lupe and sister, Barbara. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Joyce, his father Albert C. Abril Jr, seven siblings and many nephews and nieces.

In lieu of flowers for Albert, the family has requested donations to St. Mary's Food Bank.

Leanne Hernandez is in charge of tributes for St. Mary's. She said if anyone was sending money, in the memo it should mention Albert Abril and they would send a note to Joyce.

Leanne's direct line is 602 343-2554.

The outside of the letter should be attention: Leanne Hernandez.

### The first S.A.L.T. Meeting on October 14, 2000



Cano Ramirez, Jo Guill, Lenny Henderson, Bob Sizemore, Charlie Tadano, Carol Sizemore, Thomas Robins, Albert Abril and Terry Behm

S.A.L.T. is heartbroken. Albert was a cornerstone of our organization and will be dearly missed. He was a great friend and teacher. Much of his knowledge will live on through all of the students he taught in classes and at events over the years, but so much has been lost. Another light has gone out in the Primitive Skills world...

### A note from Josh...



**to all S.A.L.T. Members interested in attending the  
CELEBRATION OF LIFE for ALBERT ABRIL  
at WINTER COUNT on February 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Albert, along with Hawk, were responsible for the idea of a gathering in Arizona and talked with Dave Wescott about starting Winter Count.

Albert was known as a great craftsman with a big loving heart. He had personally touched the lives of my family when we stayed with Joyce and Albert many years ago when we were wandering nomads as well as spending time with him over many years at the gatherings.

A celebration of Albert's life will be held at Winter Count Tuesday 5pm, Feb. 11. [If you plan to attend please RSVP with this link.](#) It will help us to make the necessary plans to support all who plan to be there. We welcome you to stay for dinner after the celebration and spend some time around the fire. You are welcome to also spend the night..... just let us know. We don't want to come up short on dinner or breakfast!

To be in contact with Joyce:

Joyce Abril  
2339 W. Mulberry Dr.  
Phoenix, AZ 85015

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email us.

Joshua, Kirsten, Kiyota and Tomoki  
505-570-9484 - [wintercountcamp@gmail.com](mailto:wintercountcamp@gmail.com)



# WINTER COUNT

**February 9 – 15, 2020  
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.

### Registration will be open until we reach our limit.

The Winter Count gathering is a place to learn and share ancestral, primitive, and more modern skills that help lessen our impact on the earth by giving us the knowledge and hands on experience to make beautiful objects, work with genuine materials, and become more skilled within our abilities. At the same time, we build self-confidence and our capacity to do more with less.

We are a community of craftspeople, families, and friends, of diverse backgrounds, ages, and experience levels, who come together to teach, learn, share, and laugh.

If you prefer to mail us a certified money order or cashier's check, contact us ASAP so that we can put you on the registered list. You will have a week to get your payment to us.

#### Prices:

Adult Early Registration **\$345** (November 15-January 15 unless we sell out before that)

Adult Regular Registration- **\$435** (January 16 - February 10 unless we sell out before that.)

Teen Registration- (Ages 13-15) **\$175**

Youth Registration- (Ages 9-12) **\$150**

Kids Registration- (Ages 4-8) **\$50**

Kids (ages 1 to 3 ) **FREE**

Refund and Discount Policy: \$50 of each tuition is a non-refundable deposit. This applies to Refunds or Rollovers. Refunds can be obtained by contacting the office 30 days prior to the start of the event. After that date, arrangements can be made to Rollover the tuition to the gathering you registered for or to our other gathering SkyEarth, or transfer it to another participant. No refunds or transfers after the event begins.

Extreme weather conditions are becoming more of a concern. If catastrophic conditions require us to close the camp during an event, refunds will not be available. There are trip insurance options available through brokers that provide a policy to cover such an occurrence.

We maintain a small scholarship fund generated through raffles. Requests may be made for access to that fund. Contact us ASAP if you will be requesting a scholarship. People trying to register using Internet Explorer as their browser may have trouble. Please use Chrome, Safari or Firefox.

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)

## THE S.A.L.T. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WAS HELD BEFORE THE 1/18/20 SKILLS MEETING

### S.A.L.T. BOARD ELECTIONS

Nominations for President were open. Charlie Tadano accepted the nomination and was voted in for another two year term.



President Charlie Tadano

Nominations for Treasurer were open. Tamara accepted the nomination and was voted in for another two year term.



Treasurer Tamara Tadano

#### MEMBER INPUT ON SOME IDEAS FOR UPCOMING SKILLS CLASSES

**Pottery** – maybe Kiowa

**Tracking** – Did this class last Spring

**Soap Making** – contact Susan & Dave

**Wooden Utensils**

**Edible & Medicinal Plants**

**Cooking** – Posole

**Processing Corn for flour / hominy** - Ron Moses teaches this

**Yucca Sandals** – Contact Al Cornell

**Willow Baskets**

**Flint Knapping**

**Gourds**



**DON'T MISS THE FEBRUARY 2020  
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING!**  
Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm



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 DISCOIDAL BLADES  
MAKE FLAKES & BLADES  
with Charlie Tadano**



at PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM  
4619 E. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034  
(602) 495-0901

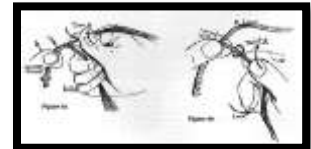
**LEVEL I of SKILLS 1, 2 and 3  
INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AT EVERY SKILL  
MEETING DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER...**

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!

# JANUARY 2020 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, January 18, 2020  
Pueblo Grande Museum

**Board Members in attendance were:** Charlie & Tamara Tadano, Laura Robins, Tom Wax, and Jennifer Ahumada

**Members in attendance:** Luis Ahumada, Steven Hall, Ron & Donna Moses, Aiden Duffy, Rachel Hungerford, Linda & Emilio Jolle, Carlos Acuna, Yelanda & Rosie Romeno, Shane Linenberger, Nyah Larson and Donald Raker

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!** Elena Underhill, Julio Gonzalez and Ryder

**Guest in attendance:** Tony Primz

## SKILL #3 FRICTION FIRE with Tom Wax & Steven Hall



S.A.L.T. met in the PGM Courtyard after the Annual Membership Meeting



Tom Wax's Friction Fire Display



Steve Filmer and the PBS Film Crew came to film our Friction Fire Class for an upcoming program. They filmed Tom Wax doing Hand Drill and Bow Drill.





Steven Hall did a demonstration and then instructed anyone who wanted to make friction fire



Tamara, Jennifer & Luis



Aiden



As always, the Pottluck Brunch was yummy!

# S.A.L.T. SKILL MEETING DRAWING WINNERS!



Tom



Steven



Ron



Donna



Shane



Nyah



Linda



Emilio



Rachel



Aiden



Julio



Elena



Jennifer



Luis



Ryder



Donald

**Wuertz Farm's 17th  
Annual  
"Running of the  
Gourds"  
Gourd Festival**



**February 7-9, 2020**

at the Pinal Fairgrounds  
Casa Grande, Arizona

**Friday & Saturday 9am-5pm  
Sunday 10am-3pm**

**Admission \$10 (Kids FREE)**

- \*Over 100 Gourd Artists & Vendors
- \*Arizona Gourd Society's Judged Show
- \*4 Days of Reserved Classes (Registration opens November )
- \*Kindergourden
- \*Sonoran Desert in Gourds
- \*Flash Gourden
- \*Games
- \*Mini Gourdster Races (Saturday)
- \*Non-Stop Live Musical Entertainment
- \*Wide Variety of Food Booths
- \*Thousands of Dried Gourds for Sale!

**For more information call 520-723-4432**



**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)



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.



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>

### 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.

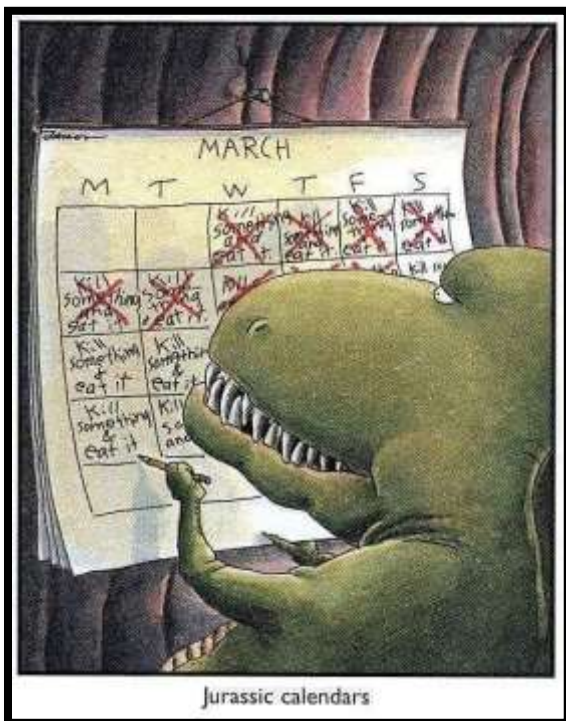
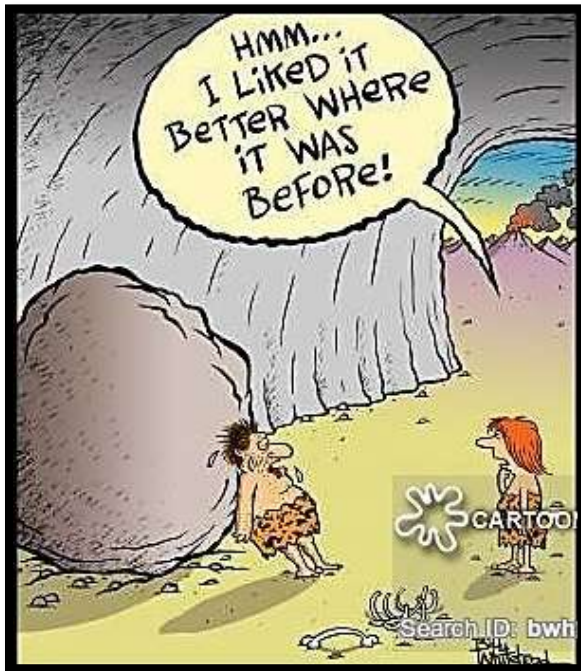
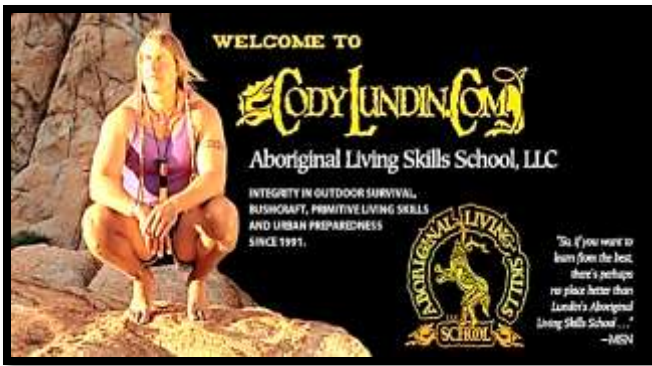
### Important Information

**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)



# 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

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

## 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

**"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)