



## 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.

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Volume 12, Issue 3

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

### S. A. L. T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING...

**ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS ARE STILL  
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

at PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM

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



I wanted to let you know that Pueblo Grande Museum has opened its outdoor interpretive trails to the public! Guests can visit the interpretive trails free of charge Monday – Saturday from 9 am – 4:45 pm.

We have two trails - the portal loop trail near the grand canal and our main interpretive trail that includes the platform mound, Hohokam House replicas, and ballcourt. All indoor facilities including restrooms remain closed to the public at this time. Just wanted to share the good news!

Check our website and follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/PuebloGrandeMuseum>) and YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/c/PuebloGrandeMuseumArchaeologicalPark/videos>).

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



### VIDEO SHOOT at Pueblo Grande Museum February 20, 2021



Charlie Tadano and Tom Wax did Primitive Tech Videos for the upcoming online Ancient Tech Day at Pueblo Grande Museum.



### Virtual Ancient Technology Day

is an on-line event featuring short talks and demonstrations by guest speakers on topics such as projectile point production, stone jewelry manufacturing, friction fire starting, the importance of parrots to the ancestors, adobe brick construction, and agave roasting. Our **Virtual Ancient Technology Day** will be presented to the public as a YouTube video on **March 13<sup>th</sup>** in celebration of archaeology month.



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

LET'S MAKE AN AXEHEAD! Part II  
by Charlie Tadano

Pecking...

S.A.L.T. LOOKS FORWARD TO  
GETTING BACK TO PGM  
WITH SKILLS MEETINGS  
ONE DAY IN THE FUTURE...  
WATCH FOR E-MAIL UPDATES.

MEANWHILE, STAY SAFE!



As I was pecking in the groove, I discovered a flaw in the stone I selected. This was a "hidden" crack in the stone that did not reach to the surface. If it had, I would not have started working this blank. Since I already had about 8 hours into this blank, I decided to see how far in this defect was. You can see the flaw at the very top of the area I was pecking...just above the little bit of cortex left.

## 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!!!



I started pecking very, very softly to remove the cortex to see how far the flaw went into the blank. You can see the dark area that is appearing. That is the flaw. My job now is to very softly peck the area to see if I can remove the flaw without it spreading and breaking the blank. I was lucky, I got to the bottom of the flaw and it didn't seem to continue into the blank, however, when I start pecking the "poll" (end of the blank) I may run into issues again...



This is how I like to peck the groove. I start on one side and peck a pretty good size depression into the blank and then start to progress down the guideline I drew around the blank. By doing this, it is much easier to remove material. It seems to collapse on itself by doing it this way. Once completed, I do the other side. If you want a "full groove axe" then completely go around the blank. If you want a  $\frac{3}{4}$  groove axe, you need to stop at the bottom. You will see what I mean towards the end of this article.



This is the stage where the groove is pecked in. I will be working on making the groove deeper and removing the cortex from the poll in the up-coming weeks. Then comes the part I really enjoy.... finishing the bit (edge area) and starting to polish the axe head. From now on, I will refer to this as an "axe head" since it is starting to look like one!



This is the bottom of the axe head. I am leaving this area for the time being exactly as it is now. This will be a  $\frac{3}{4}$  groove axe head. When hafted, there will be a small opening between the bottom of the axe head and the handle. A wooden shim was driven in to tighten up the axe head and the handle. It is hard to visualize, but when you see it in the next couple of newsletters you will understand the method.

Hope you enjoyed the instructions so far....send me images if you are working on your own axe head! ([info@tripletpromotions.com](mailto:info@tripletpromotions.com) or send a text to (602) 524-6910....)

# ANCIENT POTTERY SHARDS AND ARROWHEADS PROJECT

by Peter Huegel

Not sure if I stayed home to do this project because of COVID or because I really enjoy working with old stuff. Never the less, I have another display for which I have found wall space. It joins other displays with ancient artifacts on the wall outside my den.

I bought a box of old very poor condition frames about 18 months ago at an auction. I have been accumulating ancient arrowheads and ancient Native American pottery sherds for years.

Some of the pottery sherds get reassembled into pots and others don't have enough pieces to do that.

Well, several days ago I decided to use some of both arrowheads and pot sherds to make one more display. I think it is better than keeping the arrowheads and sherds in plastic bags in a drawer.

The frame was very poor condition. It probably dates to the 1890's and has seen better days. I had to take it completely apart – 14 pieces including 8 wood strips, 4 corner decorations, the glass, and the backing - and restore the wood, then restrain the frame wood and reassemble it.

The backing in the frame was a piece of thin wood which was too deteriorated to salvage. It would not have worked for what I wanted to do anyway. So, I made a quick trip to Hobby Lobby for a piece of 1/8 inch thick plywood. When I got home, some careful measurements, a few minutes with a hand saw, and some staining of the new wood solved the backing problem.



Then the fun started. I got all of the plastic bags of various kinds of arrowheads and pottery sherds out of storage. After putting a blanket on the dining room table – my usual creative workspace - I dumped out all of the plastic bags. A yardstick to help line things up, a tube of clear adhesive caulking and it was time to plan a design/layout for the various arrowheads and pottery sherds on the backing board.



I usually lay out the design and then walk away and do something else for a while. I come back and “tweak” the design and walk away again, and again, and again.

When I have what I like I take a photo of it in case things come apart during the “gluing” process. This project was nerve-racking because of the small size of so many of the arrowheads. Putting a blob of clear caulking on the back of such a tiny piece and putting it exactly in place without getting a smear of caulking on the backing....YIKES!



This display wound up with 4 different kinds of ancient pottery sherds – one type in each corner – and many arrowheads of different types. The pottery sherd groups are Corrugated, Hohokam red on buff, Black on white, and Black on red. I will let the experts quibble over how each group has within it various types that they can identify.



I am happy with it and my wife says it can go on a wall. Life is good.



Pipe and artifacts



Pipe and Projectile Point

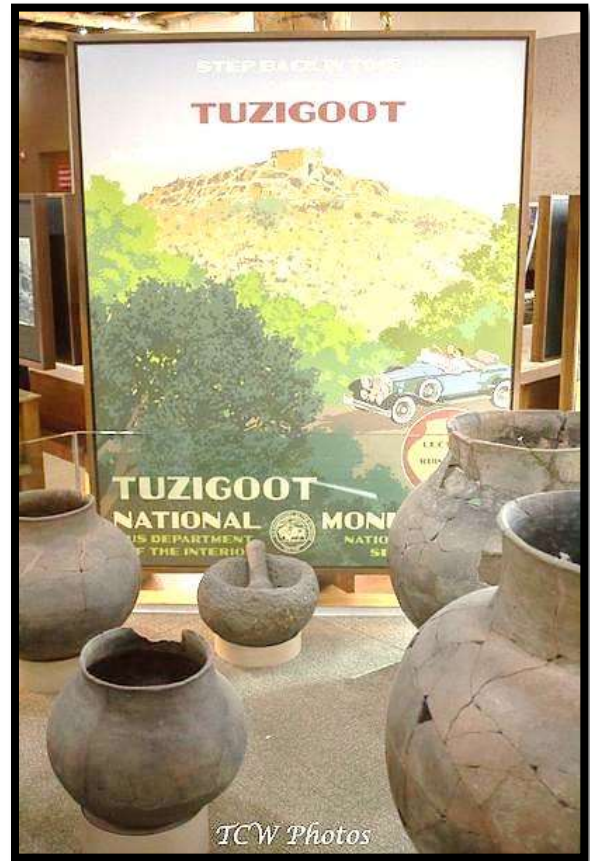
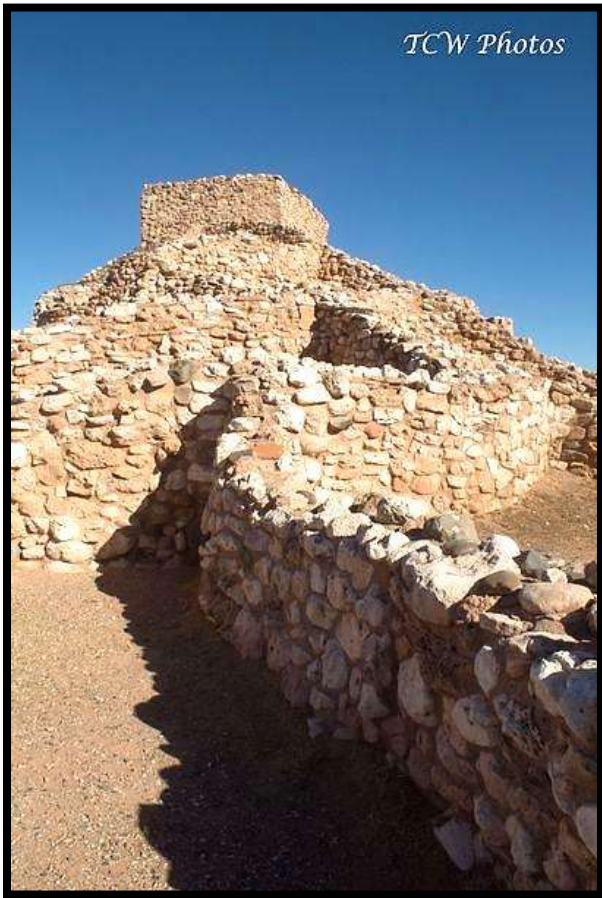


Shell Bead Necklace and Projectile Points

# S.A.L.T. MEMBERS OUT ON THE TRAIL

**TUZIGOOT NATIONAL MONUMENT**  
February 2021  
by Tom Wax

I went to Tuzigoot National Monument in February and toured the ruins and Visitors Center. I also hiked 3 miles along the Verde River that flows in the monument.



Tuzigoot National Monument Visitors Center has a nice museum with lots of Artifacts on display. Here is just a few of the pottery that is on display. Notice in the last photo is two holes in the bowl.



## DESERT SURVIVAL SKILL TIP by Tom Wax



Whether in primitive or modern times, walking through a Cholla Cactus forest is no easy task. Besides the Cholla Cactus itself, there are Cholla Cactus spines that have fallen off and are laying all over the ground. So, what would you do? One option is to walk around the entire area. But, what if you had no choice but to walk through the forest of Cholla Cactus? Even in ancient times, Cholla Cactus will go through soft leather like a knife in hot butter and the same is true with tennis shoes in modern times. Even The Barefoot Hippy would have to avoid such places to keep from getting Cholla Cactus in his feet.



It is the reason I wear all hard sole leather boots when hiking in the desert. (This is a photo of me wearing all leather boots when I was hiking the Arizona Trail.) Cholla Cactus spines will go through those lightweight nylon hiking boots. Next, you have to pick your route carefully through the Cholla Cactus and avoid brushing up against it and try not to step on the Cholla Cactus spines. For those who have never experienced Cholla Cactus, they are not warm and fuzzy.



If you do get Cholla Cactus in you, a stiff comb is a great survival tool to have on you. I carry one in my pack. (See Photo above) To remove Cholla Cactus spines from yourself; you put the comb between you and the Cholla Cactus spines and flip, pulling the Cholla Cactus spines away from you. The Cholla Cactus does not hurt when they are in you, but when you pull them out. The reason is the Cholla Cactus spines are barbed like fishing hooks. Hope this is helpful to you on your next trip into the desert.



## Between the Rivers Gathering

May 31st- June 5th, 2021

Ancestral Skills for Self-Sufficiency

Sponsored by Bridges to the Past 501(c)(3)

### Northeastern Washington State 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 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!

**Warning:** *Attending Between the Rivers Gathering may change your life!*

Sometimes the old legends say it best:

*"We do not go to the green woods and crystal waters to rough it, we go to smooth it. We get it rough enough at home; in towns and cities; in shops, offices, stores, banks—anywhere that we may be placed—with the necessity always present of being on time and up to our work; of providing for the dependent ones; of keeping up, catching up, or getting left. "Alas for the life-long battle, whose bravest slogan is bread." I am talking ... to those of the world's workers who go, or would like to go, every summer to the woods. And to these I would say, don't rough it; make it as smooth, as restful and pleasurable as you can." - Nessmuk*

**That is our hope and dream that we can help all who attend to be able to make meaningful life changes that increase their skills, intensify their connection with the Earth, and improve their relationships with others. It is all about deeper connections!**

"Primitive 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

### Skills Classes Offered May Include:

- **Atlatl and Dart**
- **Archery & Bow making**
- **Basketry**
- **Blacksmithing**
- **Buckskin Tanning**
- **Campcraft**
- **Clothing & Decoration**
- **Fibers, Cordage & Weaving**
- **Friction Fire**
- **Flintknapping**
- **Footwear**
- **Fur Brain Tanning**
- **Hunting, Tracking & Trapping**
- **Kids Program!**
- **Lithic (Stone) Tools**
- **Navigation**
- **Pottery**
- **Shelters**
- **Survival Skills**
- **Tin Smithing**
- **Tracking**
- **Water Craft**
- **Weapons**
- **Wild Edibles & Medicinals**
- **Woodworking**
- **And Much More!**

[Link to Classes](#)

Come and experience the entire week with us!

To register click [here](#).

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)



### 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)



# 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](http://www.meetup.com)



This material comes from Arizona and is called perkinsville jasper. Archaeologically we find it all over the Prescott area. From raw stone to finished projectile point, I made this using deer antler tines and hammer stones

Watch for new listings of classes that are offered, and there will be more to come!

-Kiowa Sage



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](http://www.reevismountain.org) to enroll and to get more information

Sign up online!

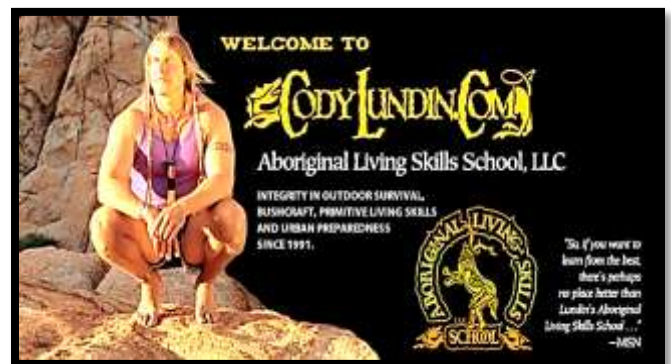
[www.reevismountain.org/classes](http://www.reevismountain.org/classes)

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



**"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**



# 33RD RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho

**SEPTEMBER 12 - 18, 2021**

**"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

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR  
FEB. 13-19, 2022!**

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)



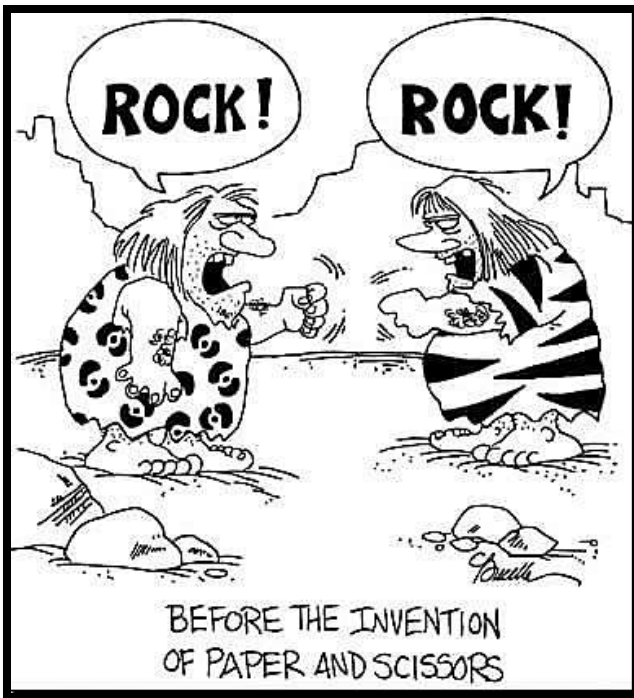
STONE AGE TECHNOLOGY FROM PRIMITIVE WAYS



**ALSO, THINK ABOUT TEACHING ONE OF OUR SKILLS  
 CLASSES WHEN WE GET BACK TO PGM!**

Contact Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910

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



## 2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE !

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

Please 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. 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**

## 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)