



# 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 13, Issue 3

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022

## S. A. L. T. CALENDAR

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

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>**

10 am – 1 pm

### S.A.L.T. SKILL #25 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

GOURD RATTLES with Ron & Donna Moses

*(Please bring a dish to share for the potluck Brunch!)*

at **PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM**

### UPCOMING 2022 MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup> **ANCIENT TECH DAY** at PGM  
9 am – 3 pm S.A.L.T. SKILLS DEMOS / ATLATLS by Members

Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> **SAN TAN ARCHAEOLOGY EVENT**  
10 am – 2 pm S.A.L.T. will be doing Skills Demos

Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> **SKILLS MEETING** at PGM  
S.A.L.T. SKILL #13 POTTERY

Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> **SKILLS MEETING** at PGM  
S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 DECORATION – Argillite Jewelry with Charlie  
**QUARTERLY S.A.L.T. BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS**

Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> **WORLD ATLATL DAY**  
at PGM from 9 am - Noon

**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!*



## MARCH IS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH !

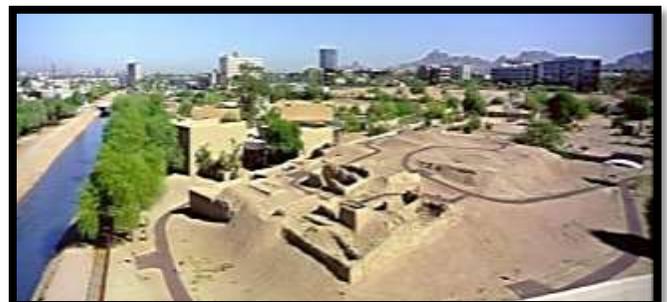
Don't miss  
**ANCIENT TECH DAY**  
March 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 am - 3 pm

**PUEBLO GRANDE 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. 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**



**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

**DON'T MISS THE MARCH 2022  
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING!  
Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 1 pm**



**SKILL #25 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS  
GOURD RATTLES with Ron & Donna Moses**

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

**MAKING A GOURD RATTLE  
with Ron and Donna Moses**

Gourd rattles are often a key element in traditional Native American Songs. The gourd will have seeds or small pebbles placed inside and has an attached wood handle. Painted designs or feathers are added to convey the "spirit" of the maker and may provide a connection to the song that it is used to accompany.

We will be using gourds sourced locally from Wertz Farm near Casa Grande, AZ. The gourds will have been pre-soaked in water for about 24 hours prior to the class to temporarily soften the outer shell.



The steps for this workshop will be:

1. Selecting a gourd
2. Cutting a hole in the neck of the gourd
3. Clean out the gourd seeds and pulp
4. Shaping a wood handle to snugly fit the opening
5. Adding in maize (corn) kernels to make the rattle sound
6. Attaching the wood handle with glue
7. Decorating the gourd

The class will last about 2 hours 10AM to 12 PM and you will be able to take your personal gourd rattle home with you. Bring your bone awl if you have one. Gourds, tools, handles, and some decorating supplies will be provided

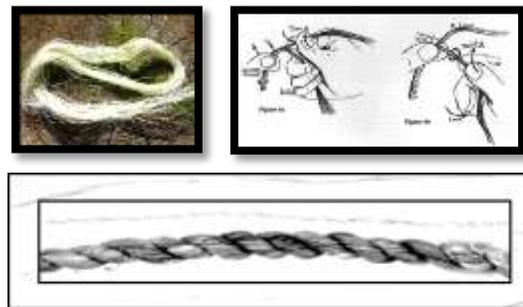
**SKILL #1 CUTTING TOOL: Level I**

*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!*

**Attention all SALT members and prospective members!**

**MARCH IS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!**

**ANCIENT TECH DAY  
at PUEBLO GRANDE**

**Saturday, March 12, 2022 9am - 3pm**



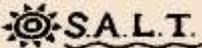
S.A.L.T. will be participating in Pueblo Grande Museum's Ancient Technology Day as we have been doing for many years. Please make every attempt you can to help us with the Atlatl Range and Skills Demos. We need many hands to man the Atlatl Range as it is always a very popular activity. Mark the day on your calendar and make plans to be there. Thank you!



**OFFICIAL  
MAMMOTH HUNTING LICENSE**



ISSUED TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
VALID ONLY DURING ICE AGE HUNTS WITH AN ATLATL  
ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MEGAFUNA  
GAME & FISH, HUNTING & GATHERING DIVISION

 **S.A.L.T.**

*Ms. Dee Target*  
DIRECTOR

**SAN TAN ARCHAEOLOGY  
SOCIETY EVENT**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26<sup>th</sup>  
10 am – 2 pm**



Saturday, March 26, 2022  
10 am to 2 pm

Are YOU interested in  
History or Prehistory?  
Would you like to learn more?

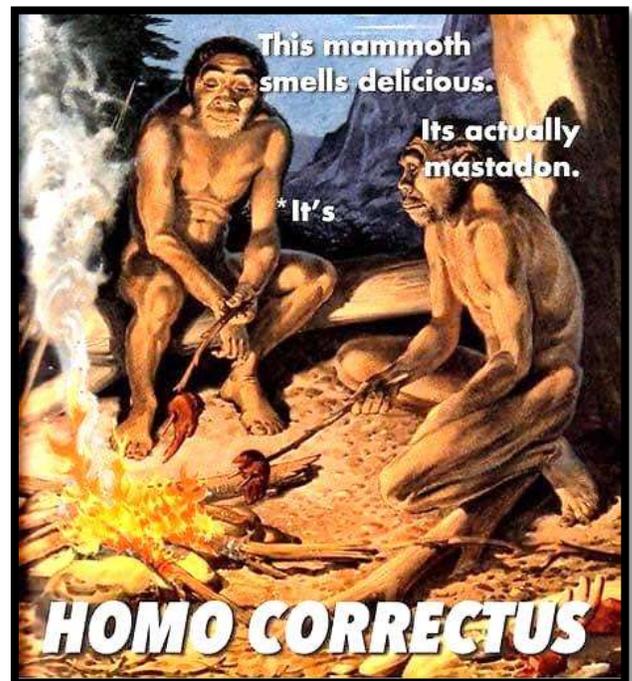
Join the San Tan Chapter of the Arizona  
Archaeological Society to learn about Arizona  
Prehistory and History from a host of activities and  
demonstrations.



San Tan Historical Society Museum  
20424 S Old Ellsworth Rd, Queen Creek  
See our Website: [azarchaeo.org/SanTan](http://azarchaeo.org/SanTan) for more information

Remember, participation in SALT activities are a part of membership!

Call Event Chairperson Donna Moses at 602-384-1359  
[saltdonna1@gmail.com](mailto:saltdonna1@gmail.com)  
or S.A.L.T. President Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910  
[info@tripletpromotions.com](mailto:info@tripletpromotions.com)



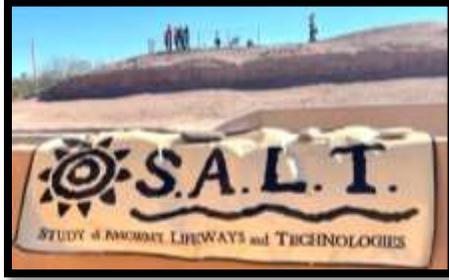
# FEBRUARY 2022 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, February 19, 2022  
Pueblo Grande Museum

**Board Members in attendance were:** Charlie Tadano, Laura Robins, Bob & Carol Sizemore, Jennifer Ahumada, Ron & Donna Moses and Gary Alves

**Members in attendance:** Luis & Noah Ahumada, Peter Huegel, Joyce Alves, Donald Raker, Carlos Acuna and Linda & Emiliano Jolle

**Guests:** David, Missy, Ezra & Lucy Lauck, Susan Rubin, Chris George, Mary Bayless, Chudy, Sophie Nyweider and Richard Gagner



## SKILL #4 TOOLS Bone Awls with Ron Moses

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
4. Building Tools	Make a fire hardened Digging Stick, Shell Scraper and Bone Needle	Make a Hoko Knife, Bone Awl and Pressure Flaker	Make a pecked and ground Stone Axe and a Pump Drill



Great class by Ron Moses!



S.A.L.T. President Charlie Tadano started the meeting



Lucy, David, Missy & Ezra



Charlie, Peter, Don and Bob



Carol & Bob



Peter



Missy, Ezra, Lucy & David



Don



Charlie

Saturday the S.A.L.T. (Study of Ancient Lifeways and Technologies) group had our monthly demo at Pueblo Grande Museum in Phoenix and members and guests were shown by our member Ron Moses how bone tools were made by the ancients. Each person there got a piece of deer bone of their choosing and got to make a bone tool using the ancient techniques. Lots of cracking bones using rocks, carving bone pieces with stone knives, and sanding into final shape on pieces of sandstone. I chose to make a bone weaving shuttle. Why? Because they are VERY rare in the archaeological record and I do not have one in my collection. Solved that problem with only 3 1/2 hours work once I had selected my piece of shattered deer leg bone.



Jennifer



Noah & Luis



Donna



Richard



Noah & Jennifer



Bob and Carlos



Laura



Linda & Emiliano



An assortment of bone tools were made!

The Potluck Brunch was awesome! Tamales from Carlos, Hawaiian Roll ups from Peter, Pastries from the Ahumadas and Baklava Cinnamon Rolls from the Laucks!



# WINTER COUNT HIGHLIGHTS

February 20-26, 2022 AT THE BOULDERS!

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)



Instructors



Photobombed by the Goats!



Tom Wax taught friction fire starting



Kids Camp



Tom's Friction Fire Class



Surprise on Wednesday morning!



Sunset at the Boulders

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

## WINTER COUNT

The Boulders East of Florence, AZ

2/21/22 by Peter Huegel



**Winter Count?** Today Winter Count is a primitive skills gathering that takes place in the Sonoran desert of Arizona. It is one of the preeminent gatherings of its kind. Instructors and students share their enthusiasm and knowledge of ancient skills such as fire making, archery, basketry, hide tanning, pottery, flint knapping, and much more.

Historically a Winter Count is a record of history. For generations, Plains Indians drew pictographs to document their daily experiences. The Lakota term for winter count is wniyetu wowapi. The word Wowapi translates as "anything that can be read or counted." Wniyetu is the Lakota word for year, which is measured from first snow to first snow.

Usually drawn on buffalo skin or deer hide; Lakota winter counts are composed of pictographs organized in spiral or horizontal rows. Each pictograph represents a year in history of a Lakota community. The pictographs were organized in chronological order so that the winter count provided an outline of events for the community's "Keeper" or oral historian to remember.



Peter Huegel, Tamara & Charlie Tadano

I spent Monday with some friends from SALT at this year's Winter Count in the desert just outside of Florence, Arizona about a 2-hour drive from our house. We left at 8:00AM and I got home after 8:30PM. The scenery was spectacular, and the assembled talent there was awe inspiring.

I picked up a bit of knowledge on tanning hides, making gourd rattles, making glue, making wood bowls using fire, making a bow, porcupine quill beading, "pecking" a stone tool, making clay pottery....

Also, it was a day to look for special items, like deer antler buttons, bone beads, sinew...things the local Walmart just does not stock. I got to do some trading for things I had made for the things I wanted.



It was fun to not use money but to use something you had made in the primitive style. I used "Wampum" shell pendants (see photo) I had made for my money.



Laura Robins and Arturo Ramirez

During our time at Winter Count we spent some time with another member of SALT named Arturo. Arturo is the largest Native American I know. He is NOT one to mess with. His specialty is making absolutely beautiful carved gourds (see photo).



He does both bowls and rattles. He was teaching his "students" how to make rattles out of gourds. A stick (usually saguaro rib), a dried gourd, some small stones or corn kernels and some feathers (to put inside of the gourd to make the special rattling sound), some agave fiber twine, and some glue made from heating a mixture of mesquite sap, charcoal and rabbit poop over an open flame. That and time are all you need to make a gourd rattle.



While we were talking with Arturo he asked Laura, another member of SALT, if she would play her flute for us. We moved up onto the hill beside a saguaro cactus and Laura gave us a private concert on her hand made – she makes them – flute. WOW! It was amazing. Almost trance inducing.



Charlie, friend and Knife Maker Dana



Basket Making

It was a GREAT way to spend a day with some VERY talented friends in a beautiful desert setting among like-minded people who appreciate ancient crafts.



Some items for sale

**SOME WINTER COUNT CLASSES...**



Brain Tanning



Primitive Pottery



Soapstone boring with an arrow



Bowl Burning



Bow Making



Atlatl and Dart Making



## Between the Rivers Gathering May 20th- June 4th, 2022

Ancestral Skills for Self-Sufficiency  
Sponsored by Bridges to the Past 501(c)(3)

### Northeastern Washington State Ancestral Skills & Self-Sufficiency Gathering

Greetings folks,

We are pleased to announce that we are planning on hosting BtR in the spring!

**Registration will open in March 2022 and will be limited** so it's better to sign up at that point rather than waiting until the last minute.

We spent numerous weekends during the fall clearing more camp sites along with small roads for easier access. Our goal is to keep nourishing & restoring the land that we gather on!

There will be limited work trade positions offered. [Email Mullein](#) to discuss options.

Do you want to be an instructor or know of anyone who's interested? We are always looking to add to our class list. [Email Patrick](#) for the details.

After having a board meeting last month, we decided to bring kitchen service back for BTR! We will host a full dinner each night of the gathering along with a simple breakfast every morning before announcements. This also allows more individuals to join our work crew for food preparation.

Thank you all for supporting this gathering each year and we look forward to seeing you soon! We will send out more information when we open registration in March.

Cheers!

**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!*

Other [Skills Gatherings](#)

[BtR T-Shirt](#)

Burning questions that can't wait? Contact us: [patrick@bridgestothepast.org](mailto:patrick@bridgestothepast.org)

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

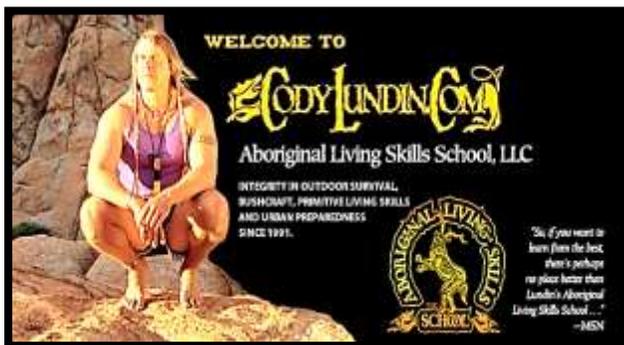
### BTR LOGO HATS ARE AVAILABLE!



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)



# 34TH RABBITSTICK in Rexburg, Idaho SEPTEMBER 11 - 17, 2022

**"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) | [societyofprimitivetechnology@gmail.com](mailto:societyofprimitivetechnology@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. 19-25, 2023

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)



### 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)

## 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)

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

## 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

# 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)

(Special price for members)  
Call Charlie for availability on Totes  
602-524-6910

## 2022 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

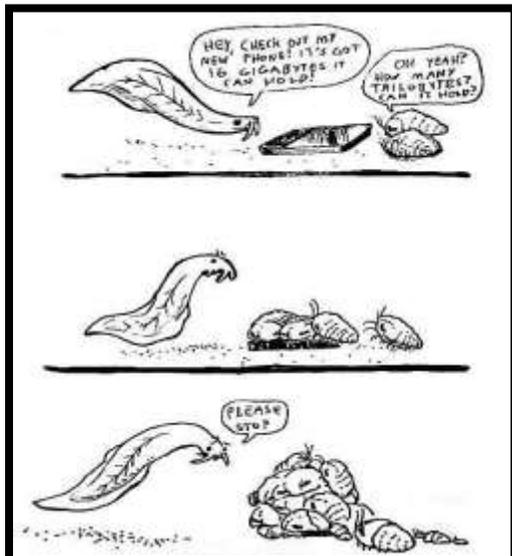
Please make the check out to  
**Tamara Tadano**

## 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!

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)