

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

Charlie Tadano, President Tom Wax, Vice President
 Laura Robins, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster

saltskills@gmail.com

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

Volume 13, Issue 5 S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER MAY 2022

S. A. L. T. CALENDAR
 NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 21ST
 9 am – Noon (*earlier time*)

S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 DECORATION
 Argillite Beads / Pendants
 with Charlie & Tamara Tadano

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

QUARTERLY S.A.L.T. BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS
 at **PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM**
 UPCOMING 2022 MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Saturday June 4th WORLD ATLATL DAY
 at PGM from 9 am - Noon

Saturday June 18th SKILLS MEETING at PGM
 S.A.L.T. SKILL #4 TOOLS – Pump Drills with Bob Sizemore

Saturday July 16th SKILLS MEETING at PGM
 S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 DECORATION – ROCK ART with Peter Huegel

Saturday July 23rd SPECIAL SKILLS EVENT
 S.A.L.T. SKILL #16 MEDICINAL PLANTS – Make Lye Soap
 at Susan Jeffay's House

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!*



PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM

Pueblo Grande just put out an in depth "on-line exhibit" called The Story Continues. Here is the link to go to the part of the exhibit that includes SALT.

Just scroll down past that guy at the Artifact Cart and past the parts about pottery.

That is where the part about SALT is located. On the SALT photo you can move the arrows from side-to-side to get two separate full pictures.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/54b9e45dee7a41c9ac2141cc67f52838?item=2>

-Peter Huegel



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 MAY 2022
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING!**
Saturday, May 21st 9 am - noon



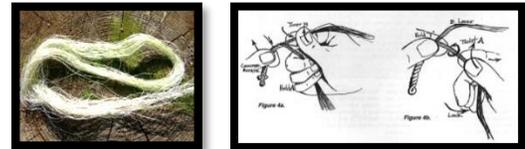
SKILL #1 CUTTING TOOL: Level I
Make a flake and discoidal blade.



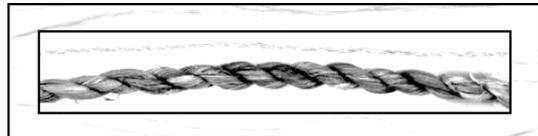
SKILL #24 DECORATION Level I
ARGILLITE BEADS / PENDANTS
with Charlie & Tamara

SKILL #2 CORDAGE: Level I
Make a uniform 3 foot length of cordage.

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
24. Decoration – Pigments, etc.	Make a personal S.A.L.T. Bead	Research 6 different kinds of decoration such as pigments, etc.	Display 3 different items that were decorated by you



Argillite



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!



APRIL 2022 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, April 16, 2022

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

Members in attendance: Luis & Noah Ahumada, Joyce Alves, Diane Anderson, Peter Huegel, & 3 Family, Donald Raker, Susan Roxburg, Carlos Acuna, Marilyn Nolan, Susan Jeffay, Sam Sargent, Tom Adkins, Rocky Hettinger and Sylvia Lee

SKILL #13 POTTERY Level I Make a small vessel with Donald Raker

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
13. Pottery	Take a class and make a simple piece such as a bowl	Take a class and make item of choice	Find clay in nature and make an item of choice on your own

Great presentation! Thank you to Donald Raker for a very informative and fun class on pottery!



Donald Raker



Susan, Rocky and Sylvia



Bob & Carol and Marilyn



Tom & Diane



Laura's Pots



Jennifer



Luis and Noah



Joyce & Gary



Ron



Sam



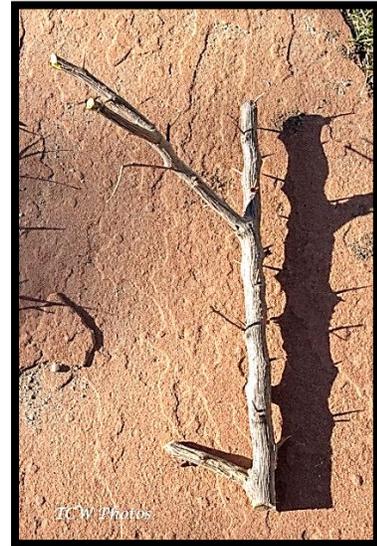
Peter's Family

S.A.L.T. MEMBERS PROJECT GALLERY

BOUGAINVILLEA BOW DRILL SPINDLE by Tom Wax



AWESOME POT LUCK BRUNCH!!!



Awhile back I was helping Diane clean up the backyard, we trimmed up a Bougainvillea Bush and I saved a piece for a bow drill spindle. It was a gnarly piece with lots of knots and thorns. I wondered if I could use it as a bow spindle being so knotty and not straight. I let it dry out for a while since it was green before trying it as a spindle.



It worked to where I could get an ember, but the cord wanted to bind up on the knots and not spin the spindle. It will work when you don't have anything else to use which was why I wanted to try it to see if it would work if that is all you had. It is better to have a nice straight spindle that is smooth for a bow Drill set (see my normal spindle in the second photo that I use).

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

IN THE MOUNTAINS 30 MILES
NORTH OF PHOENIX April 9, 2022

by Peter Huegel

I spent my Saturday morning in the mountains about 30 miles north of Phoenix. Why? Because about 1,000 years ago (1,000-1,200 AD) a group of people numbering maybe 100, tried to eke out an existence in that dry rocky desert area.

While they were there trying to make a go of it, 30 miles south of them in the Phoenix valley there were thousands of people – some estimates say as many as 100,000 - building canals, farming, making beautiful pottery, weaving textiles, growing cotton, trading with other groups who lived hundreds of miles away, and developing techniques for etching shells to make jewelry that would be unknown in other parts of the world for a few more centuries.



The people in the mountains were related to those in the valley but did not appear, based on the archeological evidence, to have a relationship with the people in the valley. There is no evidence of trade between the two groups. There is however some evidence – fortifications and mountain-top lookout positions – to show that the mountain people had reason to be concerned about raiding parties from outside their area.

Walking through the area and seeing the remains of some of their dwellings made me wonder about just who these people were and why they lived where and how they did when just 30 miles away was a whole different world from theirs.



Most of what I saw was the remains of short stone walls that surrounded their "Pit house" homes. A casual observer walking through the area may not even notice them. The rock was all rock from the immediate area – same color and type of rock.



But on the highest point in the small village was this other ruin of rock wall that was completely different. It was oval shaped rather than rectangle, and the rock making up the exterior walls was unlike anything else in the area around this village. You could say it was "colorful". It stood out like the proverbial sore thumb.

This had to have been a VERY special room to these people. The work necessary to bring these rocks from who knows where to construct this one special room would have been considerable, especially for such a small group of people.

Why were they there? Why did they appear to live in fear? Why are there no signs they traded with the world around them as all other Native people did? What was so special about that one room?



On the trek up the mountain, I got to see the desert in bloom, and see a cactus that had just earlier in the morning been eaten by Javelina. I have no idea how they can eat the cactus and not get a mouthful of cactus needles, but they manage somehow.



I also got to enjoy a snack of Wolfberries from the bushes along the path. Ancient Native people used Wolfberry as a food source. Wolfberries are small but very juicy and good. They are still used today as a health food. You can buy them dehydrated by the name of "Goji".



I also brought home a souvenir of sorts. I harvest a couple leaves of Coyote tobacco from plants along the way. The Native people smoked Coyote tobacco and used it for various ceremonial purposes. They still do. Coyote tobacco has much more nicotine content than modern tobacco. I am going to dry the leaves and put them in a medicine bag I have in my collection.



History, sometimes there are far more questions than answers. But, it is still fun to walk around in it and wonder while you munch on some Wolfberries.

Enjoy the photos. I will label some so you know what you are looking at.



**Between the Rivers Gathering
May 20th- June 4th, 2022
REGISTRATION IS CLOSED!!!**

We have reached our registration capacity for our 2022 Between the Rivers Gathering and registration is now closed. For those who are registered we look forward to seeing you in a few short weeks. For others, please plan to join us in October for FallCamp, or in 2023 for our 10th BtR. This photo was taken today at our campus in Valley, WA. Spring has sprung!

FALL CAMP October 6 – 9, 2022

We are excited to announce that we will be camping this Fall at the Bridges to the Past Campus in Valley, Washington, about 45 miles north of Spokane. Fall Camp will feature instruction in subjects that are appropriate for the season, and for the coming winter that will include food preservation and ethical harvesting, hide collection, tanning and storage, fire making methods and use, basic outdoor cooking, whole animal processing, working with bones, lithics, fibers, metal, wood and feathers, ancestral tools and weaponry, shelters, and more.

ARTHUR EXPLAINS WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO VERY WELL - WORTH READING!!

-Patrick Farneman



All cultures, at least those filled predominantly with sane people, were intimately connected to the land (and deeply entwined with the people there as well). Their culture of memory yielded a unique expression of place, one that sang a song heard nowhere else on the earth. Such people, whose bodies were made solely of the life that lived among them, had developed a specific set of skills that we

often describe today as Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). These skills, now referred to by many names (e.g., primitive skills, ancestral lifeways) form the basis of human ecology—the relationships between humans and all the pieces (biotic and abiotic) of the land they live upon. These interactions, now largely concealed from the modern consumer and often of detrimental outcome, are no longer tied to a given landscape. People are fed, clothed, and healed by goods coming into market from all over the world. Is it any wonder we feel detached from life? Is it any wonder we feel so lost, so lonely, so unsure?

While the practice of place-based skills is not a cure for everything contemporary humans face, it can be a grounding force that helps people weave themselves into the local ecological fabric and come to a deeper understanding of what it means (read: what it feels like) to be part of a place. Connection cannot be achieved without a deep understanding of everything we are dependent upon. Connection will never feel tangible until we can truly offer gratitude for the lives we take to maintain our lives. But beware, with greater awareness and more meaningful experiences comes the initial tingling of understanding and compassion, real compassion that comes from having been present for the dirty work.

Such consideration leads to love, and this opens the door to love's poorly understood and often maligned partner—grief. These are powerful agents of transformation (love and grief), and they can tender a much-needed change.

But aren't these just hobbies? Isn't building fires and crafting hunting weapons just "playing Indian" but dressing it up as something special. Possibly. For some. But rather than judging people who are seeking something they know to be missing in their life, it might be best to let them explore one of the aspects of being human—feeling love for a landscape that comes from intimate familiarity with its parts. Further, understanding that modern humans have the capacity to wield TEK as a powerful tool of reciprocal relationship can be a remedy for the guilt that is often heaped upon all orphaned lineages (as destroyers of the world). While no humans in the United States have a lived understanding of a holistic lifeway guided and bound by TEK, there is every reason to seek this right relationship with the land. We may flounder and make serious errors along the way, but this is exactly how Indigenous Peoples came to their understanding of reciprocal conservation. It was through experience (not weighty philosophical discussions). These are my aspirations, and I fully admit that this is all they may be now, just ambitious intentions that might never come to fruition. But if it seems like something you would like to pursue for your life, I encourage you to consider the apprenticeship program.

<https://www.arthurhaines.com/huntergatherer-apprenticeship>

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

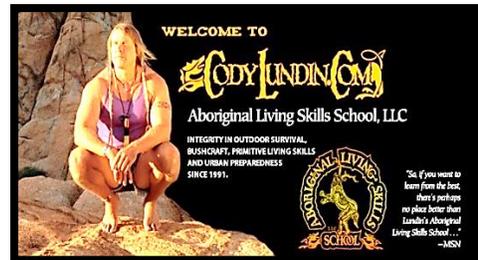
BetweentheRiversGathering.com



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)



WINTER COUNT

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
FEB. 19-25, 2023**

Winter Count 505-570-9484 WinterCountCamp@gmail.com
www.WinterCountCamp.com



34TH RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho
SEPTEMBER 11 - 17, 2022

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN
AND FILLING UP FAST!**

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!

www.rabbitstick.com

[Register On-Line Today](#)

[Share a Ride Bulletin Board](#)

[Meet Our Staff](#)

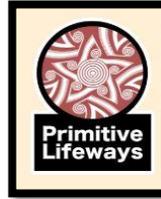
Rabbitstick | (208) 359-2400 | backtracks905@gmail.com | societyofprimitivetechnology@gmail.com



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/?ref=nF>

"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



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

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

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

Steve Watts



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

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 WHEN WE GET BACK TO PGM!

Contact Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910

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!**

S.A.L.T. T-Shirts in all sizes \$20.00 (Special pricing for members) S.A.L.T. PATCHES \$5.00 each (Memberships receive one free)

2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE !

SINGLE \$12.00 & FAMILY \$24.00

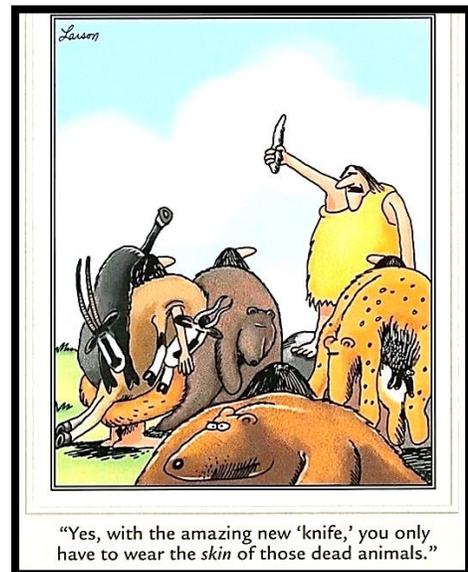
(New memberships are pro-rated throughout the year)

Please mail them to S.A.L.T. Treasurer,

TAMARA TADANO

12840 N. 45th Drive
Glendale, AZ 85304

Please make the check out to
Tamara Tadano



S.A.L.T. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Website: www.saltskills.com

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For MEMBERSHIP information call Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910 or Bob Sizemore at 520-705-9780 or e-mail saltskills@gmail.com

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