



# 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 12, Issue 11

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2021

## S. A. L. T. CALENDAR

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

**SATURDAY, NOV. 20<sup>th</sup>**

10 am – 1 pm

### S.A.L.T. SKILL #22 –

#### Primitive Hunting Skills

Throw an atlatl, rabbit stick, sling, etc.

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING FOLLOWS

### at PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM

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

### UPCOMING 2021 MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> SKILLS MEETING at PGM  
S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 Primitive Ornaments

Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> S.A.L.T. Holiday Party  
6 pm at the Tadano'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

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



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.

Purchase Native American gifts, art and jewelry at the Museum Store. Open 7 days a week Oct.-Apr.; Closed Sundays & Mondays May-Sep.

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



**DON'T MISS THE OCTOBER 2021  
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING!**  
Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> 9am-noon



**SKILL # 22 Primitive Hunting Level III**

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
22. Slings/ Spears Throwing Sticks	Take a class and make a Sling, Spear and Throwing Stick	Make your own Sling, Spear and Throwing Stick	Demonstrate how to use the Sling, Spear and Throwing Stick proficiently



Atlatl



Rabbit Stick



Sling

**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!



# OCTOBER 2021 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, October 16, 2021  
Pueblo Grande Museum

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

**Members in attendance:** Carlos Acuna, Luis & Noah Ahumada, Linda & Emilio Jolle,

**Welcome NEW Members** Diane Anderson, Patti Jelsma-Bell and Barbara Bingham

**Guests:** Kaleb Tefera and Simon Burrow

## S.A.L.T. SKILLS

#1 Discoidal Blade, #2 Cordage & #3 Fire



Delicious Potluck Brunch!

## S.A.L.T. SKILL #1 Discoidal Blade



Charlie Tadano teaching...



Charlie and Diane Anderson



Nice Blade!



Charlie and Patti Jelsma-Bell



Bob Sizemore teaching...



## S.A.L.T. SKILL #2 Cordage



Laura Robins teaching...



Diane Anderson, Patti Jelsma-Bell, Carlos Acuna & Laura

**S.A.L.T. SKILL #3 Fire**



Tom Wax teaching...



Patti Jelsma-Bell



Patti



Diane & Tom



Barbara Bingham & Tom



Diane & Tom



Carlos and Ron



Jennifer, Tamara and Donna



Luis and Noah

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



Emilio Jolle



Linda Jolle



Diane Anderson



Tom Wax



Laura Robins



Carlos Acuna



Jennifer & Noah Ahumada



Noah



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

## PAIR OF DEER BONE KNIVES by Mountainman Moses 2021

A pair of deer bone bladed knives were completed during several early morning hours of our hot Phoenix summer. These were done as part of a trade parlay for some fine peeled bark and a cache of cleaned deer bones. I believe it was determined to be a fair and excellent trade for all parties.



The blanks for the two blades were split out from deer femur bones by scoring the surface and then using indirect percussion against a stone anvil. The blanks were shaped by abrasion on a wet sandstone slab. The cutting surfaces were honed to a sharp bevel edge with a drawing motion on a wet marble stone.

The knife handles were shaped by abrasion from sections of elk antler. The inlets in the antlers, for the bone blade tangs, were cut into the antler core with a slender obsidian blade point. The process of inletting was made much easier by first soaking the handles in hot water, which temporarily softens the antler.

The blade tangs were then secured into the handle inlet slots using hot pitch adhesive made of equal parts of pine pitch, crushed charcoal, and crushed dry rabbit dung. The assembled knives were sealed with a rubbed on coating of beeswax. Additional rubbing of the wax produced a nice polished finish.



Display stands were made from pieces of Arizona ash from my dried cache of "In case I need it" wood from past tree pruning's. The stands were finished with rubbed on linseed oil. The finished blades are quite sharp as I can personally confirmed by an accidental hand wound. When freshly honed, they comparable to the sharpness of a metal bladed knife.

## HAND-DRILL VS. BOW DRILL by Tom Wax



There are advantages and disadvantages to both, here are some of the differences...

**Hand-Drill:** It is only two pieces of wood and all you need to make a friction fire. However it is hard to find a straight piece for the spindle in the wild without heat treating it first. It is not complicated to learn how to make fire with it.



**Bow-Drill:** It is easier to get a friction fire with a bow drill in wetter climates, find a short straight spindle and you can use inferior materials. If I did not have matches or a lighter, etc. and was in a survival situation, I would take the Bow-Drill hands down. However it is more complicated to use, it consists of 4 parts; The hearth, spindle, hand socket and bow limb with cord. Starting from scratch, you would have to come up with the cord somehow in the wilderness. If you cannot find natural plant materials, you can use your shoelaces, hem of your t-shirt, paracord, etc. You have to make the hand socket with the divot also.

The Bow-Drill will fit into your pack without it sticking out unlike the Hand-Drill, especially if it is an Egyptian style Bow-Drill that is small. With a Bow-Drill you can also use it with a stone drill point and drill holes into wood, seashells, etc. It is best to learn both ways.



This is a Bow-Drill made from scratch when I was on the Az. Trail. All I used was some para-cord, my knife and natural materials I found around my camp. I even found a cow knee bone for the socket.

# S.A.L.T. MEMBERS OUT AND ABOUT SOMEWHERE IN ARIZONA...

by Steven Hall



I visited several sites on the map, including one very special site. This cave site has a beautiful Sinagua pit house and cliff dwelling.



Some of the roof of the pit house is still intact and was used as the basis for determining how their roofs were constructed. The dwelling still has plastered walls and is in remarkable shape considering its age.



At the ruin site above I found not 1, not 2 but 3 olivella shell beads. Thank you to the person who shared the location with me (you know who you are)



## WINTER COUNT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR  
FEB. 20-26, 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)



## 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

**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: [patrickf@bridgestothepast.org](mailto:patrickf@bridgestothepast.org)

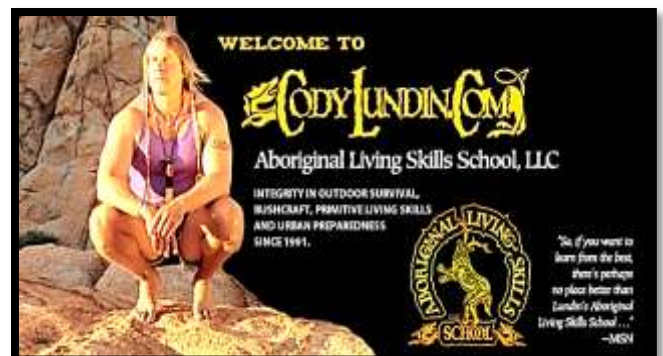
[BetweentheRiversgathering.com](http://BetweentheRiversgathering.com)

### 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)







# 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](#)  
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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>

## 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](#) 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)



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

## 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. 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)