

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  
Ron Moses, Vice President  
Laura Robins, Treasurer / Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

Jennifer Ahumada, Secretary  
Donna Moses, Events / Bead Chairperson

Volume 17, Issue 5

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

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

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

**SATURDAY, MAY 16**

10 am - 2 pm

at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM

S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS / DRUMMING CIRCLE /  
WIRE WRAPPING at 9 am

**S.A.L.T. SKILL# 24 DECORATION**

make an Argillite Pendant with Charlie

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

Saturday, June 20 SKILLS MEETING at SVM - S.A.L.T. SKILL #21  
FISHHOOKS & TOOLS - Make a BONE FISHHOOK with Ron Moses

Saturday, July 18 SKILLS MEETING at SVM - S.A.L.T. SKILL #18 TRAPS &  
SNARES - Make a Piute Deadfall with Tom Wax

*S.A.L.T. Quarterly Board Meeting after Skills Classes*

Saturday, August 15 SKILLS MEETING at SVM - S.A.L.T. SKILL #22  
SLINGS, SPEARS, THROWING STICKS - Make a Sling with Luis Ahumada

**REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR S.A.L.T. SHIRTS  
TO ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS!**

*All S.A.L.T. Members make sure Laura has your name  
on the membership list for free entry into SVM!*

**"SENDING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE"**



**S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM**



in English it is "Central Platform Mound."  
**Pronounced: SUE DOVE VE AWKEY**

S'EDAV VA'AKI 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.

It was part of the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department since 1929, but is now Arts & Culture, it's the largest preserved archaeological site in Phoenix.

**4619 E. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034 (602) 495-0901**  
[www.svmuseum@phoenix.gov](http://www.svmuseum@phoenix.gov)



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

*Steve Watts*

Get ready for the next installment of our Thursday evening programming, **Parched Speaker Series!**  
 Join us on February 5, 2026, at 6pm in the S'edav Va'aki Community Room for a very special guest lecture featuring Marie Gladue, the artist behind *The Healing Dance at Hooghan* that is on display at the museum.

Marie Gladue will be presenting virtually. In-person attendees are still welcomed.  
 In collaboration with Cocopine Center for the Arts

#SedavVaaki #Museum #ThursdayEveningPrograms #ParchedLectureSeries #GuestLectures #FreeEvents #ContemporaryArt #FineArt

## PARCHED: Speaker Series

### Marie Gladue

*The Healing Dance at Hooghan*



The Parched speaker series showcases artists featured in the changing exhibit at SVM, which explores the role of water in the Southwest through an artistic lens.

Ya'at'eeh! Marie Gladue grew up a part of the Edgewater Clainin the beautiful homeland of Dził Yilín (Black Mesa) located in Northern Arizona. In working with Navajo communities, around environment, social, and healing justice issues, she reminds people our Natural Laws are our laws that call for taking care of land, water, and air.

**FEB 5, 2026 | 6:00 PM**  
**FREE LECTURE**  
 SVM Community Room  
 4619 E. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ

- 5/7/26: Detective Detail Family Activity 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- 5/14/26: Parched Speaker Series, artist Debra Edgerton 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- 5/16/26: [SALT Skills](#), 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 5/18/26: International Museum Day
- 5/28/26: "Ways of Knowing: A Navajo Nuclear History" Documentary Screening 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

## S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM INVITES YOU TO VOLUNTEER!

Interested in gaining professional development, fulfilling volunteer requirements, and building your resume within a museum setting? Do you want to have fun and help teach the public about the Ancestral Dineen Dineen? Ages 18+!

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Conducting informative artifact interactions with the public
- Assisting outdoor education at programs
- Leading indoor exhibit-based activities

4619 E. Washington St.  
 Phoenix, AZ 85034  
 (602) 495-0901  
 www.phoenix.gov/svmuseum  
 svmvolunteer@phoenix.gov

**SCAN ME!**


ADDY TODAY

TEENS MUST COMMIT TO VOLUNTEERING FOR 10 HOURS OVER 100 HOURS!

## S.A.L.T. STUDY OF ANCIENT LIFESTYLES and TECHNOLOGIES

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN ANCIENT SKILLS?

Everyone is welcome to join our S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETINGS at S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm on the third Saturday of every month for free instruction of ancient skills!



**SKILLS:** BRONZE BLADE, WOODEN, PLATINUM BOW, PUP DRESS, BELL BEARERS, WOOD ENCHES, BOWS UNCLE, BOWS UNCLE, FRENCH PLAYERS, AIR WALK, PLANT SHAPING, BIRDS INFLATING, WALKING, POTTERY, BASKETS, BOWS UNCLE, ATLAS TL, WOODEN DOGS, WALKING BIRD, BIRD & ANIMALS UNCLE, PATROLING

"You are here today because YOUR ancestors knew these things."

**"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**

## Friends of Hubbell Native American Arts AUCTION!

Saturday, May 2, 2026

Collect the world's classic art forms! Approximately 300 vintage and contemporary Navajo Weavings, Kachina Dolls, Jewelry, Baskets, and Silversmith Works will be available.

The Auction will follow current CDC and New Mexico Dept. of Health COVID guidelines currently in effect.

**Auction Preview:** 9:00 - 11:55 am MST  
**Auction:** Noon - 5:00 pm MST

**Location:** McKinley County Community Center  
 410 Bataan Veterans Street  
 Gallup, New Mexico 87301  
 505.729.9230

**Free to the Public:** No admission charge. No food or beverage. JCC Accepted.

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT & SUPPORT NATIVE AMERICAN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

## FRIENDS OF HUBBELL AUCTION

### NAVajo RUG AUCTION

Artist Intake, Consignment, Donation times

Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon - 5:00 PM MST  
 Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM MST  
 Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon MST  
 No intake of items on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Preview:** 9-11:30am MST  
**Auction at Noon**  
 FriendsOfHubbell.org

**McKinley County Community Center**  
 410 Bataan Veterans Street  
 Gallup, New Mexico 87301

**Vendor Booth Contact:** Jeff Clarke at 602-821-8326 (call or text) or Clarke\_jeff@yahoo.com

For more information visit [www.friendsofhubbell.org](http://www.friendsofhubbell.org) or [friendsofhubbellauction@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhubbellauction@gmail.com)  
 @friendsofhubbellauction

The Friends of Hubbell Native American Art Auction on May 2, 2026.



The art auction is in Gallup, New Mexico. Visits to the Hubbell Trading Post in Arizona and Gallup Cultural Center could round out the trip. I have attached links to both. Dalen and I have attended the Art auction on multiple occasions and purchased rugs, smaller weavings and a hand carved flute. We have been to the Hubbell Trading Post

many times and toured the Gallup Cultural Center. This would be a fun 2-3 day trip.

The art auction is on Saturday, the Gallup Cultural Center is open Monday thru Friday, and Hubbell Trading post is open every day.

Happy trails, Mari & Dalen





**DON'T MISS THE MAY 2026  
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING  
SATURDAY, MAY 16 10 am - 2 pm**

**S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS, the S.A.L.T.  
DRUMMING CIRCLE, & WIRE WRAPPERS  
meet at 9 am**

**S.A.L.T. SKILL #24  
DECORATION – Make an Argillite  
Pendant with Charlie**

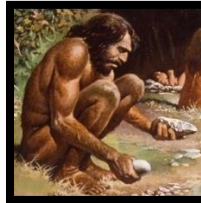
SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
24. Decoration – Pigments, etc.	Make a personal S.A.L.T. Bead	Research 6 different kinds of decorations such as pigments, etc.	Display 3 different items that were decorated by you



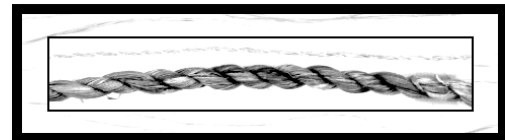
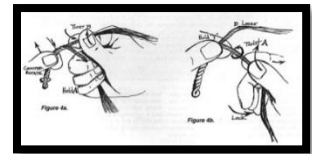
**LEVEL I of SKILLS 1, 2 and 3  
INSTRUCTION PROVIDED AT EVERY SKILL  
MEETING DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER...**

SKILL	Apprentice Level Level I	Apprentice Level Level II	Apprentice Level 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!

# APRIL 2026 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, April 18, 2026

**Board Members in attendance:** Charlie Tadano, Laura Robins, Tom Wax, Ron & Donna Moses, Bill Warner, Jennifer Ahumada, Justin Sowden, and Don Raker

**Members in attendance:** Luis & Noah Ahumada, Jax O'Connor, Billy & Reena Nickel, Linda Jolle, Lisa, & Neil Alexander, Shelly LeSueur, Sharon Newman Matt, Rocky Hettinger, Tom Adkins, Burt Toannon, and John Lavra

**Guest:** Kurt Manning

## S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS and DRUMMERS meet at 9:00 am

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
5. Flint Knapping	Demonstrate Core Reduction by Percussion	Use Percussion to produce Bi face Preform	Make primitive tools such as Southwestern Points



Bill and Luis



Bill's incredible points!

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



Laura brought hers, but no drumming... busy doing inventory.

## S.A.L.T. SKILL #3 FRICTION FIRE – Make an Egyptian Bow Drill with Tom Wax

SKILL	Apprentice Level I	Apprentice Level II	Apprentice Level III
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



Great Egyptian Bow Drill Class by Tom!



The class was out by the picnic tables.



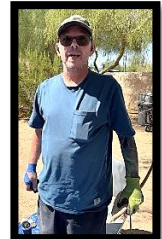
S.A.L.T. President Charlie



Tom, Billy, Reena, Jax, and Rocky



Rocky, Lisa, Neil, Donna, and Shelly



Burt



Rocky



John, Justin, Ron, and Sharon



Shelly and Don



Kurt Manning and Tom Adkins  
Great to see Kurt again after all these years!



Shelly



Reena got fire!



Sharon, Tom, Billy, and Reena



Ron



Jennifer, Noah, and Jax



Noah



Rocky at work



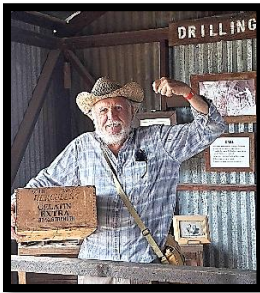
Thank you to everyone who brought delicious goodies for our Potluck like Bill's Pozole, Shelly's Cinnamon Rolls, and Charlie's Pizza!

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

VULTURE GHOST TOWN April 2026  
by Ron Moses



Fun time at the Vulture ghost town!



PNP PATROL for the S'edav Va'aki  
Museum HARMONY FUNDRAISER  
4/18/26 by Laura Robins



Councilwoman Ann & Derrick Phoenix Neighborhood Patrollers & Laura



Museum Director Nicole

Auctioneer

It was a very successful fundraiser for the Museum!

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

SERICITE CARVING  
by Bill Warner



Hohokam-esque charm I carved from local sericite schist (that silvery rock that will blind you with the sun's reflection on a walk through the desert at midday). The human figure design is actually taken from an artifact; the reverse geometric design is a doodle from looking at way too many pottery paint designs. I've seen a published picture of a 6" long spoon-like scoop carved from this rock, excavated from South of Phoenix...now I need to find a bigger piece!



# BETWEEN THE RIVERS GATHERING

May 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026



Email Mullein [HERE](#) with any further questions

Between the Rivers Gathering is a week-long educational workshop for learning skills that originated 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!

Ancestral Skills for Self-Sufficiency  
Sponsored by Bridges to the Past 501(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](mailto:patrickf@bridgestothepast.org)

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

Hi folks, I'll be renting furnished and unfurnished Yurts and Bell tents again this year. Included is a community Kitchen yurt or shade cloud to store your cooler and will also include cooking tables, stoves & pans etc.

See between the river's website for more info.

Prices for the whole week are \$300 unfurnished, \$400 furnished. Call or email [CampingYurts.com](http://CampingYurts.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)



FALL CAMP for ANCESTRAL SKILLS  
October 8- 11, 2026

[Fall Camp Website](#)



## 38<sup>TH</sup> RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho

SEPTEMBER 13 – 19, 2026

Rabbitstick Primitive Skills Gathering, held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 -5- 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 next year!**

[www.rabbitstick.com](http://www.rabbitstick.com)

[Register On-Line Today](#)  
[Share a Ride Bulletin Board](#)  
[Meet Our Staff](#)

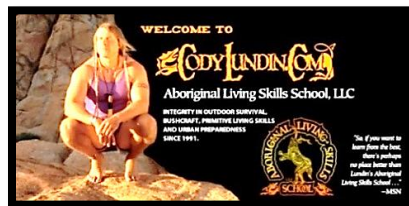
Rabbitstick | (208) 359-2400 | [backtracks905@gmail.com](mailto:backtracks905@gmail.com) | [societyofprimitivetech@gmail.com](mailto:societyofprimitivetech@gmail.com)



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>

### THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE LESS YOU NEED



[www.codylundin.com](http://www.codylundin.com) [abodude@codylundin.com](mailto:abodude@codylundin.com)

# EARTH KNACK

## Courses, Classes, and Programs



Independent Living Skills ... More Important Now Than Ever! Hands-On, In-Person Instruction ... More Important Now Than Ever! Lighthearted Positive Teachings ... More Important Now Than Ever!  
Top Quality Instruction ... Our Specialty Since 1990!  
Robin Blankenship, Founder, Owner and Instructor of Earth Knack School Author: [How To Play In The](#)

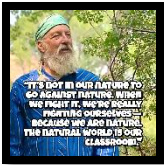
[Woods](#) (Gibbs Smith, Publisher 2016)

[Earth Knack: Stone Age Skills for the 21st Century](#) (Peregrine Books – Gibbs Smith 1996)

P.O.#508 Crestone Colorado 81131 719 256 4909

[earthknackschool@gmail.com](mailto:earthknackschool@gmail.com) <http://www.earthknack.com/>

### Primitive wilderness survival

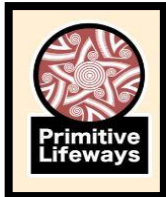


"It's not in our nature to go against nature. When we fight it, we're really fighting ourselves — because we are nature. The natural world is our classroom. We're part of the pattern, the organizers of our own experience. We recognize beauty in every sense because it's woven into who we are." -Holladave  
Talked to Holladay and we've decided to open up a few more spots to the sold out "Echoes of the ancestors" class this February!

We have a massive venue and both of us are teaching so we're going to allow 4 more students in!

Message me to snag your spot or check out the link in my bio. – Dave Wescott

[oSedptsnor3M8I92: 4hA5145uf227m5a0ca56l96tc7oNmacmb1f17eer0v](https://www.facebook.com/4hA5145uf227m5a0ca56l96tc7oNmacmb1f17eer0v)



### 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)



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



## WINTER COUNT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR

**FEBRUARY 14-22, 2027**

**REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 1, 2026**

Winter Count, (started 1995), is part of a family of gatherings that strive to reconnect people with old ways of making fire, tanning hides, forming metal, weaving baskets, hunting, gathering and much more. We teach ancestral skills that were essential to the survival and well-being of all cultures, no matter what continent your ancestors came from. Through the understanding and mastery of these skills, people find that they can connect not only to a simpler way of living life but also to the roots of their heritage and to a pathway to interact more deeply with the natural world.

We provide a camp with some of the best instructors in their fields, teaching what they have learned through experience, experimentation and through source materials. Some of the instructors have spent many years perfecting their crafts. Some have managed archeological sites while others have lived deeply among the wild places, hunting, raising their own food and making their own clothing and tools from the most basic elements. We are a diverse group of people from many experiences, opinions, and family backgrounds, who come together to share what it is that makes us excited about life.

Winter Count is a drug, alcohol, and firearm free event.

Winter Count 505-570-9484

369 Montezuma Avenue, #326, Santa Fe, NM 87501

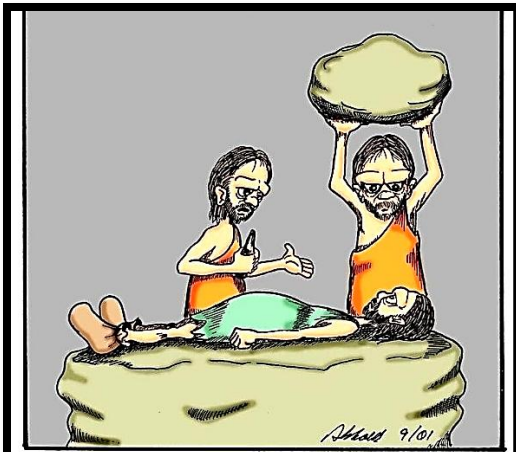
[WinterCountCamp@gmail.com](mailto:WinterCountCamp@gmail.com)

[www.WinterCountCamp.com](http://www.WinterCountCamp.com)

Please call Charlie if you want a S.A.L.T. 25th Anniversary T-shirt for \$18.50 at 602-524-6910. Only 4 left!



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



"...and this is Ralph, your anesthesiologist."



"There you go again! ... Every time the bears fight, you're right there!"

## ATTENTION

S.A.L.T. Members and Associates!

Please send 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

## 2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES

are due!

**SINGLE \$20.00 or FAMILY \$40.00**

Please pay at a Skills Meeting or mail them to

**LAURA ROBINS, S.A.L.T. Treasurer**  
1922 W. Kristal Way, Phoenix, AZ 85027

Please make the check out to Laura Robins

or Zelle Laura Robins at 623-533-0847

## 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

**BLACK S.A.L.T. T-SHIRTS, LONG SLEEVED SHIRTS, HOODIES**



and **LEATHER S.A.L.T. PATCHES** are available!

(Special pricing for members) S.A.L.T. PATCHES \$5.00  
(Memberships receive one free)

## 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)