

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

saltskills@gmail.com

Charlie Tadano, President

Tom Wax, Vice President

Jennifer Ahumada, Secretary

Tamara Tadano, Treasurer

Laura Robins, Newsletter Editor / Webmaster

Donna Moses, Events / Bead Chairperson

Volume 15, Issue 12

S.A.L.T. e-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

"SENDING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE"



S.A.L.T. CALENDAR

NEXT S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21st

10 am – 2 pm

at **S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM**

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

S.A.L.T. SKILL # 24 Decoration

Carve a wooden ornament with Gary Alves

10 am – 2 pm

ANNUAL S.A.L.T. HOLIDAY PARTY FOLLOWS THE SKILLS MEETING AT SVM at 1:00 pm

Please call Tamara at 602-920-8228 to find out what to bring to add to the delicious CHICKEN CURRY DINNER!

Also, bring a primitive-related, homemade, if possible, wrapped gift for the White Mammoth Gift Exchange!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Saturday, January 19th **SKILLS MEETING** at SVM

S.A.L.T. SKILLS #1, 2, & 3 Discoidal Blade, Cordage & Friction Fire

S.A.L.T. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING BEFORE THE SKILLS CLASS

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 SVM!

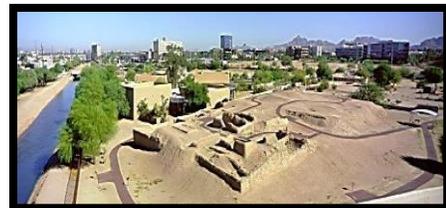


S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM

in English it is "Central Platform Mound."

Pronounced: SUE DOVE VE AWKEY

S'EDAV VA'AKI Museum (formerly 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](tel:6024950901)

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

INDIAN MARKET
SEDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM
SAT/SUN, DECEMBER 14th & 15th

S'edav Va'aki (Pueblo Grande) Indian Market is coming up soon! December 14th & 15th from 9am-4pm. Food, Native Dancing, Native Music, Art Vendors and much more! Over 100 Native American artists and crafts persons from many different tribes are represented. The Ki;Hiim (demonstration area) will include Piki bread, hoop dancing, jewelry beading, petroglyph making, native foods tasting. \$5 Indian Market admission includes museum admission.



WINTER COUNT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
FEBRUARY 16 - 22, 2025

REGISTRATION OPEN NOVEMBER 1st
AND IS NOW CLOSED!

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
www.WinterCountCamp.com

Save the Date!
2024

**47th Annual S'edav Va'aki Museum
 Indian Market &
 Young Artist Market**

December 14 & 15, 2024
S'edav Va'aki Museum
Phoenix, AZ 85034
 (formerly Pueblo Grande Museum)

Richard Daywawendewa
 2024 Featured Artist

**ARTIST APPLICATIONS
 OPEN MAY 15**

Questions? Contact:
market@svmfoundation.org

+ Museum Store Opening Hours +

Tuesday - Saturday 9:00AM - 4:00PM
 Sunday & Monday Closed

store hours are subject to change

store@svmfoundation.org 602-534-2630

2025

**Wuertz Farm
 GOURD FESTIVAL**

Jan 31- Feb 2, 2025
 Mark Your Calendar!

Spread The Love!
 We have several new changes we are putting into place! Spread the word that the Wuertz Farm Gourd Festival is going to be better than ever!

NEW

NEW CONTACTS

Vendors
 Wayton Wuertz
wuertzfarm@wuertzfarm.com

Teachers
 Leah Wuertz
Leahwuertz@gmail.com

- ✓ More Tools
- ✓ More Supplies
- ✓ Lower Prices
- ✓ Fairgrounds Improvements and MORE!!!

FESTIVAL QUESTIONS?
wuertzfarm@wuertzfarm.com

S.A.L.T.
 STUDY OF ANCIENT LIFEWAYS and TECHNOLOGIES

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN ANCIENT SKILLS?
 Everyone is welcome to join our S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETINGS at SEDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm on the third Saturday of every month for free instruction of ancient skills

*** You are here today because YOUR ancestors know these things.***



**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 DEC. 2024
S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING**
Saturday, December 21st 10 am - 2 pm
(Bring a snack for the Potluck Brunch!)

**S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS and the S.A.L.T.
DRUMMING CIRCLE will meet at 9 am**

**S.A.L.T. SKILL #24 DECORATION
Carve a Mastodon Pin with Gary Alves**

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

For the December S.A.L.T. meeting, we are going to carve a mastodon pin, Christmas ornament, refrigerator magnet. It's a replica of one carved of mammoth ivory and found in Vogelherd Cave in southwestern Germany. It was carved approximately 33,000 years ago and was part of material from an excavation in 1931.



Please bring a Hoko knife if you've made one, a personal knife, or carving tools. You can also call me and ask about carving tools if they are planning to buy some, rather than waste their money on something you won't need. The project we will do can be done with an ordinary pocket or hunting knife, provided it is sharp. If you have gloves you should bring those as well.

Thank you. Gary Alve 928-679-3644

**ANNUAL S.A.L.T. HOLIDAY PARTY FOLLOWS THE
SKILLS MEETING at 1:00 pm**

**Please call Tamara at 602-920-8228 to find out what to
bring to add to the delicious CHICKEN CURRY DINNER!**

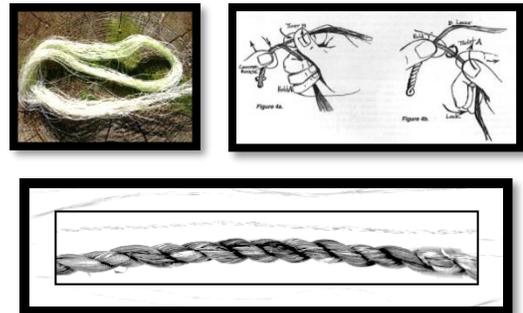


**Also, bring a primitive-related, homemade, if possible,
wrapped gift for the White Mammoth Gift Exchange!**

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!

NOVEMBER 2024 S.A.L.T. SKILLS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, November 16, 2024

Board Members in attendance: Charlie & Tamara Tadano, Laura Robins, Ron & Donna Moses, Jennifer Ahumada, and Peter Huegel

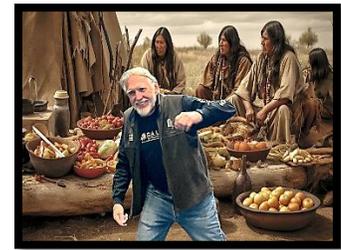
Members in attendance: Luis & Noah Ahumada, Carlos Acuna, Bill Warner, Dalen & Mari Townsend, Linda Jolle, Billy Nickel, Reena Zapata, John Lavra, Lanly Lee, Susan Jeffay, Rocky Hettinger, Michelle Benavides, Donald Raker, Shelly LeSueur, Chanana McGarry, Peter Bee Wellman, Brian Calaway, Christina Tatalovich, and mr.me

Guest: Ernie Verrue



Peter gave an update on the S.A.L.T. Exhibit in Sun City

S.A.L.T. SKILL #17 COOKING What's for dinner in 1224 AD? with Ron & Donna Moses



Ron & Donna taught a great class that explored the many ancestral foods that would have been available at a feast somewhere in the Americas 700 to 800 hundred years ago. You will have a hands-on opportunity to prepare and cook a traditional **Boiled Masa Bread**, which will become a part of the foods you can sample later at the "Dinner". Come find out where potatoes really originated, and that tomatoes are not Italian, and that corn has a "Lost Recipe."



S.A.L.T. FLINT KNAPPERS & DRUMMERS MEET BEFORE OUR SKILLS CLASS 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



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





THE MENU
 AZTEC TURKEY POZOLE
 THREE SISTERS SOUP
 NOPALITOES SALAD
 SUCCOTASH
 CORN PONE
 PARCHED MAZE
 POPPED AMARANTH SEED
 ANCESTRAL JUICES
 ANCESTRAL CONDIMENTS
 MASA CAKE



Making the Traditional Boiled Masa Bread



It was delicious! We would be a lot healthier if we ate like this!



Making the fried Corn Pone



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

S.A.L.T. EXHIBIT OPENING
at the Sun City Mineral Museum



For about the past 10 years or so I have on occasion, done presentations on various historical subjects for a great group over in Sun City, Arizona. They go by the name Sun City Rockhounds. They are a group of rock enthusiasts who go out into the wilderness, alone at times, and at times in groups to find neat rocks. Over the past 60 years they have put together a collection of their finds into an incredible mineral museum.

Several months ago, they decided to remove non-mineral type items such as ancient artifacts of various kinds from their museum. Those items had been donated to the museum over its 60-year history by various members who found the items during their rock hunts. Their Board voted to donate all those items to the group S.A.L.T. (Study of Ancient Lifeways and Technologies) of which I am a Board member. Long story as short as I can make it, the ancient artifacts were packed up and brought to my house where myself and some other SALT members unpacked them and photographed them before we started to figure out exactly what they were and how old they were.

I did a presentation for the Rockhounds on what many of the ancient items they donated were and that lead to them offering SALT some exhibit space in their museum to advertise our group.



I worked with SALT members to obtain items they had made based on skills learned at our SALT meetings. Those items were put on display in the exhibit and I was asked by the museum to do a "Show and Tell" for visitors to the museum about SALT and what the various items in the SALT exhibit are.

That lead to my finding my name on the museum door announcing the event. EGO TRIP! And later an article in the mineral newsletter called Earthquake.

By the way, some of the artifacts donated to SALT are over 6,000 years old and a few are even older! Many have now been mounted individually in special frames to be used as teaching tools by SALT. Study of Ancient Lifeways & Technologies.



PICTOGRAPHS NEAR TUCSON By Kiowa Sage



Went to see some cool pictographs with a couple co-workers near Tucson. They look to be big horn sheep and deer. From what I've seen, pictographs are rarer in Arizona, so it's great to see some still preserved through time.



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

[Verde Valley Archaeology Center & Museum](http://VerdeValleyArchaeologyCenter.com)

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Info from Ron Moses



These ollas, Spanish for "large pot," are from our museum collection and were used by the Sinagua people who resided in the Verde Valley as well as other Indigenous groups across the greater Southwest.

These jars were primarily used for storage of food items like corn and beans, as well as water. Having an abundant supply of water and storing crops was crucial for sustaining life in the desert during dry periods and other uncertainties. The openings of some ollas were sealed with clay to preserve the food stored inside.

Ollas have been found in caves and buried in pueblos across the Verde Valley. Some are decorated and indicate which region the pot was made, while others are plain. These ollas are reconstructed Verde Red jars, a type of pottery that typically has a smooth surface finish for the exteriors of jars. Ollas have been traded across the Southwest for hundreds of years.

VVAC does not participate in the removal of artifacts from their original resting place but is a repository for past collections. VVAC also houses artifacts recovered during Cultural Resource Management (CRM) excavations in situations where artifacts or human remains must be removed until repatriation is arranged with the Tribes. VVAC is a NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) compliant organization. We adhere to the latest guidelines in collection management put in place by the United States Secretary of the Interior.

《 》 BETWEEN THE RIVERS GATHERING 《 》

May 26th – 31st, 2025



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(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)

IMAGINE US IN THE STONE AGE



37TH RABBITSTICK

in Rexburg, Idaho

SEPTEMBER 14 – 20, 2025

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 next year!**

www.rabbitstick.com

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

Rabbitstick | (208) 359-2400 | backtracks905@gmail.com | societyofprimitivetech@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/?fref=Nf>



FALL CAMP for ANCESTRAL SKILLS October 9 - 12, 2025

Instructors:

Please check in with Patrick if you would like to teach.

[Email Patrick HERE](#)

[Fall Camp Website](#)

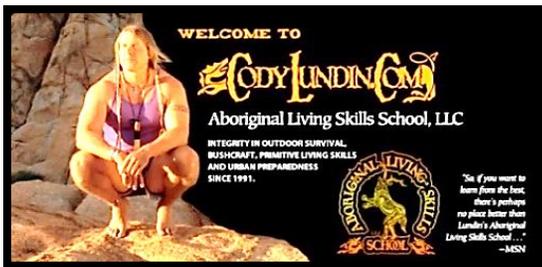
PRESCOTT PRIMITIVE LIVING SKILLS Prescott, Arizona

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

THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE LESS YOU NEED



www.codylundin.com 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 <http://www.earthknack.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

Order all your favorite Reevis Mountain Remedies online!

www.reevismountain.org/country-store

Blessings, Peter Bigfoot & the RMS Interns



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

Volunteers Needed for City of Phoenix Park Steward Program



The City of Phoenix Park Steward Program is looking for volunteers to help maintain, clean, and preserve our trails. Help make a difference in your community!

Visit volunteer.phoenix.gov to apply or reach out to 602-495-5458 for more information on how to get involved!

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



2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY!

SINGLE \$20.00 or FAMILY \$40.00

Please pay at a Skills Meeting or 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

Or Zelle Tamara at 602-920-8228

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

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



**And NEW LEATHER S.A.L.T.
PATCHES are available!**

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

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!

Contact Charlie Tadano at 602-524-6910

S.A.L.T. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Website: www.saltskills.com

e-mail address: 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

For EVENTS and BEAD information contact Donna Moses at 602-384-1359 or 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