

# **New Mexico Zia Sundials Chapter# 106**

## **November 2020 Newsletter**

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The Zia Sundials November Zoom meeting will be at 1 PM Nov. 14, 2020 mark your Calendar.

The Zia Sundials October meeting had no new business matters and with a quick multi century “on this Date” talk from Buzz we began a wonderful presentation by Gene Nall on being a watch repairman. It’s an honor to have Gene and his knowledge in our chapter. Here are some highlights from Gene’s presentation.

Gene said what he thinks makes a watchmaker applies to patience, passion, fun and the same techniques that machinists use. His passion began when he was stationed in Japan repairing typewriters. He knew two people on his team that repaired watches. He kept taking his watch apart and putting it back together and couldn’t wait to find watches to repair.

The most expensive watch he worked on was a Rolex and the most complicated was a chronograph watch with 3 to 5 dials to synchronize. Watches should be lubricated every 3 years. It can be hard to get parts for the watches. Interesting note, if you get a non-water proof watch wet in salt water you should put it in the freezer until you can get it to a watch repairman. This will help keep the rust down.

Gene can have real problems getting balance staffs for the watches. For 65 years he has worked on watches and the big thing is to remember your past mistakes. As Gene transferred around the country he worked at jewelry stores repairing watches. He has a shop at his home and does his work at home. Gene opened up for questions and many items were discussed including clocks, sympathetic pendulum oscillation, types of watches and more. He said he’s always around for anyone that may have a

question. Thank you to all that joined in on Zoom and certainly thank you to Gene for an informative and enjoyable presentation.

## Information from our president Buzz Pierce:

Greetings all:

Hope everyone is healthy and doing well in these tough times. The social isolation and disruption of our “normal” lives continues and looks like it will be for the foreseeable future. Please take care of yourselves, observe best possible pandemic precautions, and keep a positive attitude.

We all wish to thank Gene Nall for his presentation for our October meeting. His program was personal, entertaining, and informative. Gene recounted his experiences as a watchmaker for over sixty years in a straight forward and educational fashion, while giving us a glimpse of his subtle sense of humor. Thank you, Gene!

The program for this month will be presented by Ken Tully. Ken will complete his history of time keeping with a look at “Beyond Quartz”. Ken will present us with a look at the most current technology in time measurement along with future trends. Please make plans to attend the Zoom meeting.

We are in dire need of volunteers to present programs in future meetings. If you have a horological interest that you would like to share, please consider putting together a program to share with the Chapter. It is not very hard to do with the aid of the internet, copy and paste computer functions, and programs like PowerPoint. There is a minimal learning curve to use these capabilities – you do not need to be an expert. If you wish to try and need help – I am more than willing to assist.

Finally, I wish to thank Dwight Auten for all of his efforts in publishing the newsletter, planning the meetings, and contacting members to encourage attendance. He has devoted much of his time in order to keep the Sundials afloat. Thank you, Dwight!

Hope to see you all on Saturday.

Best regards, Buzz