Speed City Indiana Chapter of Sisters in Crime

Minutes for April 25, 2026

Location: Zoom and Carmel Clay Public Library

The meeting was called to order by chapter President Diana Catt at 11:03 a.m.

Minutes: The minutes from the March meeting appeared in the April newsletter. Tony Perona had one correction at the end of the minutes – should read "Officers for 2026" instead of 2025. Motion by Tony Perona to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth San Miguel. Accepted.

Treasurer's Report: The April report was published in the April newsletter.

Speed City SinC Treasurer's Report April, 2026 (as of 4/20/2026)

BEGINNING BALANCE (3/18/2026): $ 1,518.86

Income:

Chapter Dues (from National)	$653.40
Amazon book sales	$ 1.18
Lightning Source Book Sales	$ 8.79
Total Income: $ 663.37	

Expenses:

March Speaker lunch & gift card (Janis Thornton)	$ 46.88
Website Domain 2 years (Elizabeth San Miguel)	$ 33.90
Proof Copies Scenic & Sinister (Elizabeth San Miguel)	$ 53.06
Total Expenses: $ 133.84	

ENDING BALANCE: $ 2,048.39

Upcoming Expenses / Income:

• Mary Bischoff confirmed her payment for her share of the Comic Con table. It will be included in next month's report

• The chapter owes Crystal Rhodes $20 for double payment of 2026 dues

Motion by Michael Dabney to accept the report was seconded by Elizabeth San Miguel. Accepted.

Membership: Nothing new to report.

Media: Nothing new to report.

Speakers: Janis Thornton has speakers lined up for the next several months and welcomes your suggestions for future presentations, especially for July, October and November meetings. Speaker Line-up:

Today – Dave Perry, graphic novel illustrator and storyteller

May – Chris Clouser, author, will speak about self-publishing

June – Larry Sweazy will present his workshop on finishing our works-in-progress

July – TBA

August -- Russ Eberhardt will lead a panel (that will include Reese Hirsch) on Artificial Intelligence.

September – Lori Rader Day, author, will speak on book promotion for shy authors

Old Business

1. Landmark Anthology news:
    a. The Scenic and Sinister Anthology final edits have been sent to Elizabeth.
        i. Launch party at MacArthur Books will now be held on May 30, 2:00-4:00 pm.
            1. Authors may do a 1-2 minute reading. It is possible to have someone else do the reading for you, but it is preferred to have the author read their own piece. Please let Elizabeth know if you plan to attend and/or do a reading.
            2. We will have space for refreshments. Volunteers are requested to bring items to share. Elizabeth and Ramona have volunteered to bake something. Chapter to purchase drinks.
            3. There is room to have lots of people attend. Diana has made up an invitation which may be shared with friends and family.
        ii. We should have books in time for the Mayfest booth on May 16.
        iii. Members are encouraged to solicit interest for selling our books at new locations, especially those landmarks included in the anthology.
    b. April 19, 2026, 1 - 4 pm - Hamilton County Public Library Book Fair at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds.
        i. Ramona Henderson and Mary Bischoff worked the table. No sales made that day. They reported lots of interest in the Sinister and Scenic Anthology and some interest in new membership.

ii. Discussion about lack of traffic. New location this year was better, bigger crowd. Not many seem to be buying. Free to attend, so probably still worth it.
iii. Suggestions for ways to attract people to our table.

c. May 9, 2026, 9 am – 2 pm –Book fair at The Author's Patch in Danville. There will be 60+ authors in attendance, as well as food trucks and crafts.
    i. Our sales will run the Author's Patch register for a 60/40 split
    ii. Volunteers are requested to work the booth from 1-2 and help pack up, Diana Catt, Michael Dabney, Russ Eberhart,and Dave Reddick will be there. Diana and Michael need to leave at 1 pm for another meeting, so if anyone can help out please contact Diana.
d. May 16, 2026, 10 am - 6 pm, & May 17, from 10 am to 4 pm, May Fest 2026 at Camp Chesterfield.
    i. Volunteers requested to work the table for the following shifts:
        1. Saturday, May 16, 10 am – 2 pm. Diana Catt and Ashley
        2. Saturday, May 16, 2 pm to 6 pm. Arianna Grazzianni and Elizabeth San Miguel
        3. Sunday, May 17, 10 am to 4 pm. Possibly Steve Terrell, Russ Eberhart and Mary Bischoff
        4. Please contact Diana if you can work.
e. June 5 – 7, 2026, Comic Con.
    i. Members will be participating on several panels
        1. Artificial Intelligence – Russ Eberhardt has a panel that includes Mary Bischoff
        2. From Page to Stage to Screen – Diana Catt, Michael Dabney, Crystal Rhodes and Lillie Evans
        3. Still waiting to hear on more approvals
        4. Contact Diana if you want to participate on any panels
    ii. We have a table we will share with Grandmothers, Inc and Dragon's-Edge Press
    iii. Possible to purchase bags for book sales.
f. We have a QR code linked to our website book page. We will order half inch stickers.

New Business

1. Dragon's Edge Press is announcing open submissions for the second edition of the Dragon's Edge Press and Starbase Indie sci-fi/fantasy anthology. Mary and Diana will edit.
    a. Deadline for submissions is June 15, 2026. Short stories should be 4000-6000 words; Poetry up to 250 words
    b. This year's theme: "A Confluence of Forces" – anything where unexpected things happen when two cultures or peoples or anything rub up together and cause interesting things to happen.

    c. Authors will receive a paperback copy. Possible book signing events to be announced.
    d. More details at DragonsEdgePress.com.
2. Book sales at the Indiana Historical Society - Michael Dabney followed up with Becke Bollinger of HIS, who is interested in selling Scenic and Sinister, pending review of the published book. This would also probably mean we would be included in their November author fair.
3. July, 10 – 12, 2026, In-Conjunction – a science fiction fantasy convention at the Wyndham, Indianapolis Airport. Mary Bischoff has a table for $60. Local SinC will split the cost and Mary will sell our books. Today's Guest Speaker, Dave Perry, will be the Guest of Honor.
4. Bounchercon
    a. BoucherCon Indy committee will meet at the Kurt Vonnegut Library on May 9
    b. Bouchercon 2026 will be held in Calgary, Canada October 21-25, 2026
    c. Bouchercon 2027 will be held in Washington DC
    d. Bouchercon 2028 will be held in Indianapolis. Tony Perona and Lori Rader-Day will be co-editors of the 2028 Anthology
    e. BoucherCon 2029 will be held in Miami

Member News

Steve Terrell has programs on his book "The Madness of John Terrell" scheduled for April 30 at the Yorktown Library and May 16, at 10:00 am at the Greenwood Public Library. He shared a great experience from a recent event, where he met 3 of John Terrell's great grandsons. Steve also recommended a book by Don Winslow, "The Final Score."

Michael Dabney's third novel in his David Blaze series, "Pursuit of the Jade Empress." comes out on May 5th. Available on Amazon. Launch party to be announced. Recommended by Diana and Janet.

Lilly Evans and Crystal Rhodes will be guest speakers at the Alpha Sigma Theta Sorority meeting on May 11 at 6:50 pm. They will talk about their many writing projects and show their film, which was a big hit at their premiere earlier this month.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:53 pm.

Officers for 2026

President: Diana Catt, diana.catt@gmail.com

Vice President: Mary Bischoff, riasnetbook@gmail.com

Secretary: Arianna Grazzianni, grazziarti@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Tony Perona, tony.perona@gmail.com

Membership: Michael Dabney, mbdabney27@yahoo.com

Media: Elizabeth San Miguel, esm.kirlia@gmail.com

Speakers: Janis Thornton, janisthor@aol.com