Speed City Indiana Chapter of Sisters in Crime

Minutes for May 23, 2026

Location: Zoom and Carmel Clay Public Library

The meeting was called to order by chapter President Diana Catt at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes: The minutes from the April meeting appeared in the May newsletter. Motion by Elizabeth San Miguel to accept the minutes was seconded by Michael Dabney. Accepted.

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

BEGINNING BALANCE (4/20/2026): $ 2,048.39

Income:

Chapter Grant (from National)	$400.00
Authors Patch Book Sales (Bedlam & Fine Art)	$ 17.99
Dragon's Edge (for Comic Con booth space)	$ 94.00

Total Income: $ 511.99

Expenses:

April Speaker lunch & gift card (Janis Thornton)	$ 63.60
Crystal Rhodes (reimb. for double payment of dues)	$ 20.00
Diana Catt (purchase of promotional stickers)	$ 14.75
More Proof Copies Scenic & Sinister (Eliz. San Miguel)	$ 53.06
Copies of S&S for Mayfest (Eliz. San Miguel)	$ 78.21

Total Expenses: $ 229.62

ENDING BALANCE: $ 2,330.76

Motion by Janet Williams to accept the report (pending audit) was seconded by Elizabeth San Miguel. Accepted.

Tony Perona set up a QR Code for making payments by Zelle. This will be another payment alternative for anyone to purchase books, pay dues, etc.

More income from book sales in May was not reported in time for this month's report. It will will appear in the June ledger.

Membership: Nothing new to report.

Media: If you have any changes to your information listed on the website, please contact Elizabeth San Miguel. She is also taking submissions from anyone wishing to contribute to the newsletter.

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

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

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

July – Terry Barnett, our Sister In Crime, will talk about designing books and why it's OK to judge a book by it's cover

August – Janet Williams will moderate a panel on Artificial Intelligence that will include Russ Eberhardt and Reese Hirsch.

September – Lori Rader Day, author, will speak (via zoom) on book promotion for shy authors

October -- Laura VanArendonk Baugh, author, return to teach us more about distributing our books through BookBub.

Old Business

1. Landmark Anthology news:
    a. The Scenic and Sinister Anthology will arrive in time for our launch party next week.
        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. (Steve Terrell volunteered to be a substitute reader.) 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. Our Mayfest booth on May 16 sold the first 9 copies of the anthology, plus 5 others.
        iii. Members are encouraged to solicit interest for selling our books at new locations, especially those landmarks included in the anthology.
    b. Book fair at The Author's Patch in Danville on May 9, 2026. We sold books through the store. We will have the final tally on sales and payment June 1.

c. June 5 – 7, 2026, Comic Con.
    i. Members will be participating on several panels. Schedule is not available at this time.
        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. Meeting Tuesday at 7 pm for anyone particiapating on the Page to Stage to Screenplay panel.
d. We have a QR code linked to our website book page. We also have half inch stickers of that QR code that you can attach to your business cards, bookmarks, etc that will direct one to our book sales page.

New Business

1. Dragon's Edge Press is announcing open submissions for the second edition of the Dragon's Edge Press (no longer affiliated with Starbase Indie) sci-fi/fantasy anthology. Mary and Diana will edit.
    a. Deadline for submissions has been extended to July 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. Indiana Historical Society is now taking submissions for books to be sold at the Historical Society. Diana is submitting several of our chapter books.
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.
4. June 13, 2026, 10 am–4 pm -- Kirkland Art Fair. Diana will purchase a table for $20 to sell our books. Diana will work that day and welcome any other volunteers. Bring your own chair.
5. Bouncher con
    a. Bouchercon 2026 will be held in Calgary, Canada October 21-25, 2026
    b. Bouchercon 2027 will be held in Washington DC. Submissions are now open for the anthology. Theme is "Power Corrupts."
    c. Bouchercon 2028 will be held in Indianapolis.
        i. Tony Perona and Lori Rader-Day will be co-editors of the 2028 Anthology
        ii. Please contact Diana if you would like to volunteer. There are many ways to get involoved. More information in the newsletter.
        iii. We are looking for ways to get more young people involved/interested.

d. BoucherCon 2029 will be held in Miami

Member News

Michael Dabney's new novel "Pursuit of the Jade Empress," the third in his David Blaze series, is now available on Amazon. Launch party will be June 7, at 3 pm, at Mac Arthur Books.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:56 am.

Officers for 2026

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

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