Speed City Indiana Chapter of Sisters in Crime

Minutes for July 25, 2026

Location: Zoom and Carmel Clay Public Library

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

Minutes: The minutes from the June meeting appeared in the July newsletter. Motion by Tony Perona to accept the minutes was seconded by Janet Williams. Accepted.

Treasurer's Report: The July report (ending July 15, 2026) was published in the July newsletter.

BEGINNING BALANCE (June 17,/2026): $ 2,730.09

Income:

Amazon Sales	$ 1.18
Members Copies S&S	$ 54.00

Total Income: $ 55.18

Expenses:

Cardinal Publishing Group (copies of HoHo)	$430.40
Banner for booth displays (Diana)	$ 150.00
Copies of M2020 & D of D (Elizabeth San Miguel)	$ 84.44
Copies of T or T (Elizabeth S.M.)	$ 43.57
May Speaker gift card & Lunch (Janis Thornton)	$ 64.68

Total Expenses: $ 773.09

ENDING BALANCE: $ 2,012.18

Notes: • Amber Waves of Graves through 06/19/2026 - Bal $624.25 to reach author pay out

Motion by Diana Catt to accept the report (pending audit) was seconded by Janet Williams. Accepted.

Membership: Nothing new to report.

Media: Elizabeth San Miguel is accepting submissions from anyone wishing to contribute to the newsletter. She plans to have a new monthly spotlight on authors of stories in the Scenic and Sinister Anthology. If your story was included, and you would like to be featured, please send information about yourself and a couple of lines about your story.

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 –** Terry Barnett, our Sister In Crime, will talk about designing books and why it's OK to judge a book by its cover
>
> **August** – Janet Williams will moderate a panel on Artificial Intelligence that will include Russ Eberhardt and Reese Hirsch. Related podcast is now available on starbaseindy.org/podcast,
>
> **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.
>
> **November** -- TBD

Old Business

1. We got the new banner for our book events. It was displayed at the meeting. Looks great!
2. Landmark Anthology news:
    a. Landmark Anthology news: Scenic and Sinister:
        i. MaryBischoff got a commitment to sell our books at Landmarks Emporium cloer to Halloween.
        ii. Diana Catt applied to the Indiana State Museum and Indiana Historical Society to sel our books in their gift shops.
        iii. Bobbi Barmore got a copy on display at Golden Hour Books
        iv. Please continue to look for new places we can sell our anthologies.
    b. QR code stickers are available to put on your business cards or your bookmarks. See Diana to get your stickers or a digital file.
    c. Kirklin Art Fair, was rescheduled to August 9th. For anyone that wants to participate, the cost is cheap, but you need to bring your own table, chairs, and tent. Diana Catt can supply chapter books for you to sell.
    d. The Author Patch in Danville has an author fair September 26, 2026. (Schedule conflicts with the Lori Rader Day talk at the September meeting). Tony volunteered to work a table for us there. Other volunteers are encouraged.

3. The chapter ordered additional copies of our anthologies. Racing Can Be Murder from Cardinal will now be out of print, so we purchased more copies than usual. Suggestion for members doing book signing events: purchase our anthologies at the member rate, then resell at your event. Our current inventory is:
    a. Racing Can Be Murder – 94
    b. Bedlam at the Brickyard – 69
    c. Hoosier Hoops & Hijinks – 59
    d. Decades of Dirt – 4
    e. Fine Art of Murder – 12
    f. Homicide for the Holidays – 6
    g. Murder 20/20 – 9
    h. Trick or Treats – 13
    i. Amber Waves of Graves – 25
    j. Scenic & Sinister - 67
    k. Circle City Crime - 10
4. Scenic and Sinister authors should receive a pdf copy of the book soon.

New Business

1. We're considering ordering new bookmarks and business cards that include our QR code, website, and books. Terry answered the call for volunteers and will work on a new design.
2. There was discussion on whether or not to participate in GenCon 2027 (in early August), which includes the writer's symposium. Membership was in favor of pursuing this and promoting Bouchercon 2028 there.
3. Bouchercon 2028 promotional materials are in the design process. We are waiting for money from national to print these.
4. Book Signing Events update. Please let Diana know if you are interested in volunteering:
    a. Kirkland Art Fair - August 9, 2026
    b. Rewind - we got a refund for our booth, due to multiple schedule conflicts. Cardinal Publishing offered us a 2 your slot at their booth - September 26, 2026, 3-5 pm. Current volunteers: Diana, Joe, Russ
    c. Lit Fest, Indy (Harrison Center in Indianapolis) - October 3, 2026, 10am -8pm. (Application sent)
    d. Bouchercon 2026 - October 21-25 will be in Calgary, Canada.
    e. Marion Book Fair - October 31, 2026 (Application sent)
    f. Ladies night out, The Author Patch, Danville - November 19, 2026, featuring our Scenic and Sinister anthology as the new release and food from Homicide for the Holidays
    g. Indiana Historical Society Christmas Tree and Author Fair – (Application sent in)
    h. Bouchercon 2027, Washington DC
    i. Bouchercon 2028 – coming to INDY; Get involved! Join our local organizing committee, which will be meeting August 6.2026, 7 pm via zoom.

Member News

Question - was anyone selected for a panel at Bouchercon 2026? No. Diana is waiting to hear if she was selected for a 20 minute slot to speak. If so, she hopes to promote Bouchercon 2028.

Janis Thor will be doing a true crime program at the Lawrenceburg Library - August 15th.

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

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