

OUR APRIL 2026 MEETINGS

Compiled by Dave McChesney

Friday, April 10th saw Spokane Authors meet at the Sans Souci West Club House on West Boone Avenue. Attending were: Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Joel Craig, Larry Danek, Mary De Bord, Sheri Decker, Gary Edwards, Sue Eller, Mark Lee Golden, Anna Goodwin, Denise Guy, D. J. Guy, Esther Hildahl, Bob Hildahl, Keven Hostbjor, Amy Logan, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Kathryn Robinson, Elena Smith, Mikel and Mrs. Stevenson, and Terry Stratton. Guests included Stan Smith and Rich Kellogg.

(Note: If you are listed as attending and didn't, or if you attended and aren't listed... my apologies... I try to account for all, but it doesn't always work out that way.)

Carl opened the meeting by asking for reports on any projects that members might have in work. Sarah Vail mentioned being 135 pages into her newest project. Terry Stratton said he was closer to finishing a short story collection. Kevin Hostbjor introduced his newest book, *Thank Kevin for Little Tales: They Grow Up in the Most Novel Way*. Carl noted the kids at the private school he's been working with are getting closer to publishing their anthology.

Our speaker was Gary A. Edwards, who talked about writing screenplays and especially musicals. He reminded us to be aware of what either the camera or the audience sees. He also said that when a character makes his or her first appearance, their name should be in bold. Gary noted that with a regular film, one page of screen play was equal to a minute of presentation time. With musicals it could take longer to move ahead by a page. He offered a lot more information about the process.

Sue Eller announced that Larry Danek and her would be at University High School's Craft Fair on the following weekend, and at the Rummage Sale at Sans Souci West the weekend after.

Our upcoming Wednesday evening meeting will be an open forum regarding AI. Anna Goodwin will be our primary Speaker in May, while Ben Van Voorhis will host a short story writing workshop at May's evening get together.

As is our custom, we ended our day with drawings for door prizes

Spokane Authors also met at Sans Souci West on Wednesday evening, the 15th of April. Present were: Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Cat Collins, Sue Eller, Denise Guy, D. J. Guy, Genny La Morgan, Dave McChesney, and Terry Stratton.

The topic of discussion was AI or Artificial Intelligence. In a brief introduction, Dave suggested that many aspects of AI could be useful. Spell Check and Grammar Check are helpful, allowing AI to do the house and yard work while we concentrate on creating. Sue noted that it is not real intelligence, but as the name implies, artificial. She suggested that a reader makes a good writer and said that using AI is a lot like owning a gun. It's up to the person in charge.

The group seemed to agree that certain aspects of the science were of help to writers, but that allowing AI to actually write one's story might pose moral and perhaps legal problems. We agreed that a lot of what was AI generated wasn't that good.

By 7:45 we agreed that all that could be said was said, we decided it was time to set the room back to normal and set out for home.



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