



Sarah Statz Cords works at the reference and circulation desks at the Alicia Ashman Branch of the Madison Public Library, Wisconsin. She also teaches “Reading Interests of Adults” at the School of Library and Information Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison. She previously worked as a Reference and Instruction academic librarian in the University of Wisconsin School of Engineering. She is a book reviewer for *Library Journal*, Bookslut.com, and the Madison Public Library MADreads blog. She also provides nonfiction book reviews and news at her Nonfiction Readers Anonymous blog (<http://nonanon.blogspot.com>).

### Her Books

*The Real Story: A Guide to Nonfiction Reading Interests* (Libraries Unlimited, 2006)

*Public Speaking Handbook for Librarians and Information Professionals* (McFarland Publishing, 2003)

### Workshops

#### **THE WIDE WIDE WORLD OF NONFICTION: GENRES AND READING INTERESTS (MIX-N-MATCH INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS LISTED BELOW, OR TRY ‘EM ALL!)**

- True Adventure: Couch Potatoes Need Not Apply
- Travel: So Glad I’m Home, I’m Glad I Went
- True Crime: In Cold Blood
- Environmental Writing: It’s Only Natural
- Science and Math: I have a B.A.; You Want Me To Read What?
- History: Don’t Know Much About It
- Biography: We’re All People Here
- Memoirs and Autobiography: I Gotta Be Me!
- Relationships: Getting By with a Little Help from Our Friends
- Investigative Writing: Get the Scoop Here!
- Making Sense...: When the Story Isn’t a Story

Each presentation, designed to help participants feel more comfortable providing nonfiction readers’ advisory services, includes a definition of the nonfiction type, how it can be thought of in terms of appeal and mood factors, discussion of current trends and styles, and suggestions for both important and new authors and titles in each category.

## THE SECOND STACKS: LOVING NONFICTION IN A FICTION WORLD

Although the only type of writing defined by what it is not, nonfiction is anything but invisible in the literary and popular culture that is currently dominated by what Chuck Klosterman has called “the rise of the real.” This workshop explores

- Types of nonfiction
- Challenges in classifying and displaying it
- Current controversies (James Frey ring any bells?)
- Suggested classic titles and current bestsellers
- How to encourage readers to explore both the fiction and nonfiction stacks

You will come away from the session with a deeper understanding of nonfiction and those who enjoy reading it, plus the confidence and skills to put that understanding to work in your library.

## BOOK BLOGS 101 (CO-PRESENTED WITH JANE JORGENSON OF MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY)

Blogs are just a passing fad, right? Let’s hope not; they provide one of the best formats available for keeping on top of what’s hot and what’s not in the book, publishing, and library worlds (and can serve as one of your library’s hottest new marketing and community involvement resources). Participants in this workshop will learn what blogging is, a few of the technical challenges involved with the practice, the differences between personal and institutional blogs and suggestions for writing both, and why blogging can be a fun and worthwhile tool for professional development.

## Contact Information

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