My Writing Territories

My students – how they learn to be great writers: scripts of the lessons they identified as best for other teachers

My students – funny stories of classroom incidents

Poetry – how to teach it so it isn’t scary (to teachers) and is inviting (to kids)

Bob – ten years of adventures, working things out and the distribution of labor, how we met

Toby – wild dog stories, lily pad boy, between the legs dog, double knee surgery, talking dog, energy conservation play, beggar boy, lap dog, watch out for that tongue!

Nola – wild dog stories, “I am the driver,” Velcro dog, yoga help and ponytail biting, Nola and Toby play with Nola biting Toby’s tail and ankles, 100 mph dog, couch leaps

Cats – sleeping positions, petting preferences, favorite activities to amuse and annoy, plus the cats on the driveway taunting the dogs

My mother – the changes in our relationship and in her as she ages

My father – the changes in our relationship; teaching, traveling, and gardening commonalities

By brother – conversations with him, how he is still often my annoying little brother, teaching stuff

My nephews – funny stories about their visits, phone conversations, and ways of turning a phrase

The eternal search for the perfect pen and mechanical pencil

Coffee

Earrings and boots: how buying a pair never fails to lift my spirits

Exercise: A love-hate relationship
Songs that speak to me and for me

Books, books, and more books, including young adult fiction

Adult female friendships vs. the friendships of my youth

Learning to age gracefully and forgive my face and body for not being “perfect;” my angst about young girls who can’t love their faces and bodies

Gardening passions

Home repair nightmares

Color and the power of colors to enhance mood

Old Adobe – its philosophy, history, methods, curriculum, accomplishments

School business – reports on students, newsletters, project information, website, grant proposals

How I love long days of summer

How I learned to love poetry; how I learned to read

Live theater, musical theater, comedy shows, concerts: the shows themselves, the crowds, the drive through the theater district and the homeless couple picnicking in front of Chevy’s

The governor’s proposed education budget cuts

War and peace, politics and apathy, educated populace

Granny and Pop’s farm: stories of lambs, vegetarianism, milking, goats, and more

Grandparents: both sets and their differences and how senility improved one relationship

Divorce: how it harms and how it heals