



News from Sus[an] June '13 ☀ No. 25 in an occasional series

what I'm working on

writing

Bless the Birds, a story of love and brain cancer in two voices, takes up the major part of my writing energy (and has for the past year). As I've said on [my blog](#), to write memoir that's compelling, I have to re-live it. Re-living this story is intense, but also rewarding as I ferret out snippets of writing by the other voice, that of my late love, [sculptor](#) and economist Richard Cabe.



Habitat Heroes & Wildscaping

As part of my mission to leave the world--at least my small patch of it--in better shape than I found it, I'm helping launch an urban-habitat-restoration project involving Audubon Rockies, Terra Foundation and Plant Select. "Be a Habitat Hero!" encourages wildscaping to restore habitat for birds and other wildlife, helping mend landscapes an increasingly fragmented world. Check out the project's [website/blog](#).



carpentry and construction

With much help from friends, I'm close to finishing this beautiful complex that Richard helped build. I've learned to shape wood and metal into custom trim & other finish-carpentry projects that honor the elegant and [earth-loving aesthetic](#) of my late love. Now I'm ready to sell. I'm working with a friend who is also a real estate agent. For details, see my [sale flyer](#). I'm not going far: I've spent 16 years on this block, and I love it here. I'm building a tiny house for myself at the other end of the block, plus a garage with second-story guest space.





Terraphilia Artist/Writer Residency Program

[Jill Powers](#), fiber-sculptor extraordinaire and our first resident this year, worked on sculptures related to global climate change. See Jill's visit to the art classes at Salida High School and her work on [a video](#) by Bill Hudson. The Terraphilia Residency is by invitation; contact [Salida Council for the Arts](#) for information. (On the left, Jill Powers talks to a group of local artists, plus her sculpted hand with insect.)

articles

The March issue of Audubon Magazine featured my "[10 Things You Can Do for Birds](#)"; the article was also front page on National Audubon's eNewsletter. "The Whole Life," my column in [Zone 4](#), the magazine for Rocky Mountain gardeners, is in its third year.



Write & Retreat Workshops

The first "Write & Retreat" workshop, offering time out for creative renewal and writing practice inspired by extraordinary natural places, was a huge hit, so I've decided to expand my series of [Write & Retreat](#) workshops. The next is truly a bucket-list trip: a weeklong stay on magical [Isla Espiritu Santo](#) in the rich azure waters of the Sea of Cortez off Baja California, February, 2014.

I'm offering another four-day "Write & Retreat" at [Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa](#) March 20-23, 2014. Recharge your writing and your spirit, experience the magic of sandhill cranes' spring dances, and soak in hot springs with a view of snowy peaks!

Details on both workshops are on [my website](#).

Breathe. Smile. Love.

Honor the journey.

Blessings to you and yours!

