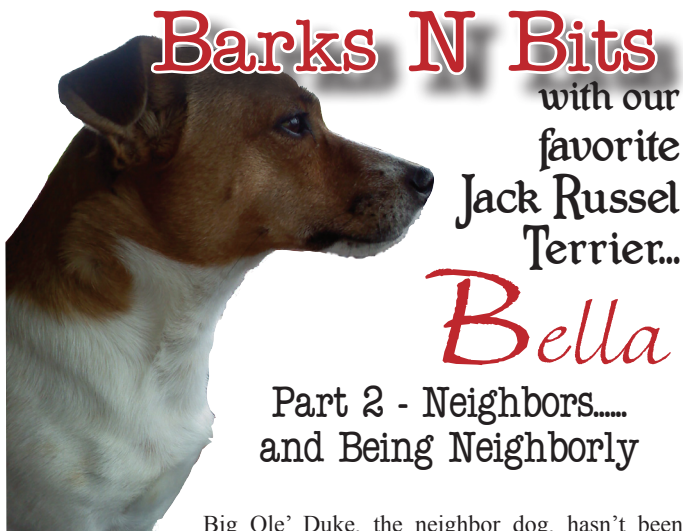




Big Ole' Duke, the neighbor dog, hasn't been down in a while. I think his owners got tired of running down here to get him every other day. I'm not sure if I should say this or not, but I guess it can't hurt since the other dogs around here can't read. I wouldn't want them to think I am getting soft - since I am the senior dog around here. But, I have to admit that I kind of miss the big lug. I know last month I complained of him hanging around all the time and all, but he really wasn't so bad. He kind of kept the three big dogs busy so I could get in some good mousing time out in the barn. Although I don't miss the Duke droppings....they're probably not as easy to miss now that the snow has melted.

I was right. Annabelle found my Christmas present. It didn't take her long either. Now my brand new dog bed has been "Annified." And for those who are wondering what the definition of "Annified" is, it

is simple....in one word it means "ruined." That's right, she got ahold of it and once again - green stuffing now on the outside of the bed, not the inside. Of course, the one person in the house who finds her in the act would be the one who has also been "Annified." (Once again - the definition is "ruined" - Annie has ruined her.) In a nutshell - Princess Annabelle has her wrapped around her little paw....so when she was caught with the green stuffing hanging out of her mouth, all she got was an "Awww, Annie, are you being bad? Or do you just want a bed of your own?" OMG!!! (FYI - I text 2 - lol!) Poor little Annabelle chews up bed number two for yours truly and then she gets sympathy because she doesn't have her own bed to chew on. I give up.

Did I mention that it is finally warming up a bit here? It is great, I can actually stand to go outside and stay for a while. It's nice to get away from the little bark box for longer than what it takes to "do my business." She usually ends up out there with me when the people go to the barn. It doesn't take her long to beckon the "Annified" one and she has this one convinced to carry her back to the house whenever she yips. Like she couldn't use the exercise! It is pitiful. She'll look at me and say "Watch this" and then give out a little yip. Then, here comes the "Annified one" and it's "Awww, Annie, are you cold? Do you want me to take you to the house? You poor little thing.....it's too muddy out here for you, Princess....." Then as she picks her up, Annie gives me a "sorry about your luck" look and she's swooped off to the house. All I can say is "GOOD RIDDENS!" More alone time for me.

One thorn temporarily removed from my side, now where is that Duke?



I could use a distraction for these three big outside dogs so I can get to mousing.

Until next month....
Don't get "Annified"

