



# Barks N Bits

with our favorite  
Jack Russel Terrier...

*Bella*

## A Court Jester and A Princess

Last month I let you in on the noise level around here at the ranch. (That hasn't changed much.) I also gave you a good idea of what it is like to live with a donkey who thinks he is the funniest thing on four legs.



This past month has only confirmed what I threw out there in the last issue. The donkey is officially a "Court Jester" and his whole purpose in life is to entertain the folks around here. I was just stating my opinion last month, but I heard it from the lady who lives here in her own words. She said, "How can you listen to him or look at him without smiling and maybe even cracking up?" She's cracked up alright. She went on to say that he was

well worth the money she paid for him, that she had received as much in return in the form of laughs. I still don't get what is so funny about a loud laughing, egomaniac of a donkey.

The man who lives here seems to side with me on this one.....I have come to a conclusion and I think I speak for us both when I say, "The donkey needs a job!" It seems like the "Court Jester" and the "Princess" are the

only two around here who don't have to earn there keep and seem to exist for entertainment purposes only. What great gigs! Everyone else around here has to work for a living, including yours truly.

I've taken some time to think on this very seriously and think I have came up with a couple of jobs for each of the free-loaders. Here are my thoughts....

Since the donkey is so active and enjoys making a lot of noise, I think he would make a great baby sitter for the baby foals. His entertainment experience could come in handy when the babies are bored and need something to grab their attention. Of course this job is most useful after they have been weaned and are no longer with their mommas, so we will have to revisit this job opportunity for Seven late next summer. The other option for the donkey that could work very well in the next couple of months is working as a stand in for the live nativity scenes before Christmas. I especially like this one....he could be rented out and leave for long periods of time. However, I don't think the lady and the little girl that live here will go for that idea.

I think we will have to settle for teaching the donkey how to chase away strange dogs and maybe even coyotes. He is pretty scary when he makes all his noise and comes running at you with those ears flapping and feet flying. I'll have to admit, if I didn't know him, I'd probably split if I seen him coming after me. He is loud and isn't too crazy about dogs. With a little training, this just might work. I'll keep you updated.

As far as the Princess is concerned, I've thought and thought and the only thing I can come up with for her to do around here to earn her keep (that she could do well) is "lap warmer." That's right, I said it. She makes a nice lap warmer. Now talk about a great gig.....

Until next month....  
Earn your keep.....

*Bella* 