



Barks N Bits

with our favorite
Jack Russel Terrier...

Bella

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year!! I hope everyone got all they wanted for Christmas and that you have made your New Year's resolutions.

Christmas was good for me, as usual....I got some doggy treats and a new doggy bed. We'll see how long this one lasts with the "Princess" around. She got a new bed too....so that may prolong the life of mine for a while. I managed to get lots of scraps over the holidays, probably put on a little holiday weight, but hey....my New Year's resolution is to lose that, just like everyone else around here.

We've had a couple of interesting days at the ranch - guy in red suit with reindeer landing on roof and sliding down chimney for one thing. Also, our neighbor dog, "Duke," has made his return. He hadn't been here for a month or two - not since the day he tried to kill one of the chickens that live here. Folks here don't like chicken-chasing dogs.... or egg sucking dogs....just in case you were wondering.

Duke must have learned his lesson and thought it was time to come back to redeem himself with my people. I'm not sure if he got the job done or not though. You see, his "self preservation instincts" kicked in and he has pretty much made a pig of himself each time he's been here

lately. I'll explain....the people who live here sometimes get bread to feed the horses when they put them outside in their lots in the morning. Each horse will get some slices of bread with their hay and believe it or not, they love it!! Problem is, Duke loves it too.

Each time a piece of bread is thrown out on a flake of hay....Duke gulps it down. No chewing, no breathing....just, "GULP!" Bread gone. You wouldn't think that was a big deal, just a few slices of bread, right? Let me elaborate. There are about 20 horses here at the ranch at any given time and each horse gets from 1/2 loaf to a whole loaf of bread in the morning. That's anywhere from 10-20 loaves of bread. I think Duke ate about 75% of the bread this morning. I'm surprised he didn't explode.

Okay, I'll admit, I help myself to a slice or two, as do the other dogs who live here. But no one could keep up with Duke. They couldn't throw it out fast enough to stay ahead of him gulping it down. We'll see how long it takes "Ole Duke" to wear out his welcome again.

There has also been some "schooling" going on with our "Yee Hawing" friend, Seven the Donkey. Seven has spent the past few days turned out in a lot with Lucky. Lucky is the older gelding that usually teaches all of the weanlings manners and he doesn't take any "poo" off of Seven. Matter of fact, he has been leading Seven around by his halter for the last 30 minutes or so and Seven is leading fairly well. He doesn't have much of a choice, Lucky doesn't give him one.

As for me, when I'm not shaking my head at the antics of Princess Annabelle, Duke or Seven, I'm hanging out by the fireplace. That's a great place to spend January (and February) in Indiana.

Until next month....

Don't wear out your welcome and.....

Stay warm.....

Bella 