

## PONIES

The pony, mule or donkey to my right reminds me of the character in the Shrek- the donkey that seems to do more than test its welcome...it give perseverance a bad name when it comes to making itself at home in the ogre's swamp.

Near my house, a pasture of mules reminds me often of you and in particular Abby who is our certified horse expert. What she doesn't know about these creatures is probably little, but what she desires is to know everything about them and to one day have a job working with them in some capacity.

In the second of the Shrek series, this donkey is transformed into a fine steed: a white thoroughbred with dazzling lines, blazing speed, and an ego or temperament to match. As you have probably seen this movie more than once, the story does not have to be explained in detail. In case you may not know however, the donkey is still a donkey though dressed like a white stallion. Like Cinderella, however, he ends-up returning to his true self in physique though with much disappointment.

For most of us who have watched this donkey in action, there is both an attraction and a "bit-of-irritation" as Shrek might put it. The donkey is cute, with all his gregariousness and cheer; but leaves little room for anyone else's desires however strongly communicated. He has the gift-of-gab, is quick-witted when it comes to his needs and desires, and is persistent and even stubborn as his true nature purports. Yet we love him – because he just wants to be loved and accepted with all his wit, his gab, and his stubbornness.



Wit makes its own welcome, and levels all distinctions. No dignity, no learning, no force of character, can make any stand against good wit.

- **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

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