

TEETER TALES



The official newsletter of Kruisin' Kanines

www.kruisinkanines.com

Vol 21 • Issue 12 • December 2016

IN THE BEGINNING: A BRIEF HISTORY OF KRUISIN' KANINES

1996-2016

Compiled by Club Historian, Peg Antrobus, from the Archives and Memories

Kruisin' Kanines began life in 1996 in Perkasio, PA, in the backyard of our founder and first President, Jim Loveless. The only remaining members from that first year are Peg Antrobus, Doris Homsher, Konnie McCaffree, and Tracy Yeanish.

The first official club meeting was held in July 1996 in Jim's living room with 17 people present. The original name of the club was "Keystone Agility Club of Norristown" due to the connection to Keystone Agility Club, Inc., and also because our first AKC trial had been scheduled under the Keystone name.

Our first AKC trial, in April 1996, was held at Fisher's Park in Lansdale, PA. We had a total of 300 dogs entered.

After that first AKC trial, we took members' suggestions for a new name in order to avoid confusion with the Keystone Agility Club. Several suggestions were turned in, and Kruisin' Kanines was the favorite. So, we became "Kruisin' Kanines of Perkasio" (because that's where we began).

In order to help us get started, and avoid some equipment expense, Jim and his wife Leslie donated their personal agility equipment to the club. We chose red and black as our "official" club colors. Jim also designed our dog

on the teeter logo, affectionately known as "Tom Kruise."

That first winter, training was held in a horse arena owned by a German Shepherd Dog breeder. To reach the barn, one had to run a gamut of pens full of furiously barking German Shepherds. We had to clean up horse poop before each class, and all equipment had to be put away in a roped-off corner after every class. Horses left loose in the arena during the day often chewed on the wooden equipment.

We also had to pay to store our excess equipment in a storage rental facility, and haul everything from storage to trials or demos.

By the end of 1998, after being shuffled around to at least three horse barns, discussions began on getting an exclusive-use facility. We were tired of sharing barns

with horses, cleaning up horse poop, and having the horses chew on our equipment. The board investigated several sites, and finally settled on our current site in Carversville.

The first look at the site was definitely not encouraging. When we went in to look at the place, there were deer heads and skins hanging in the mezzanine... a very revolting sight!

Continued on page 2

**Board/General
Membership Meeting**

January 28 @ the banquet

Barn Cleaning

**Saturday, December 17
9am-noon**

**Don't Miss the
Kruisin' Kanines**

Banquet

Saturday,

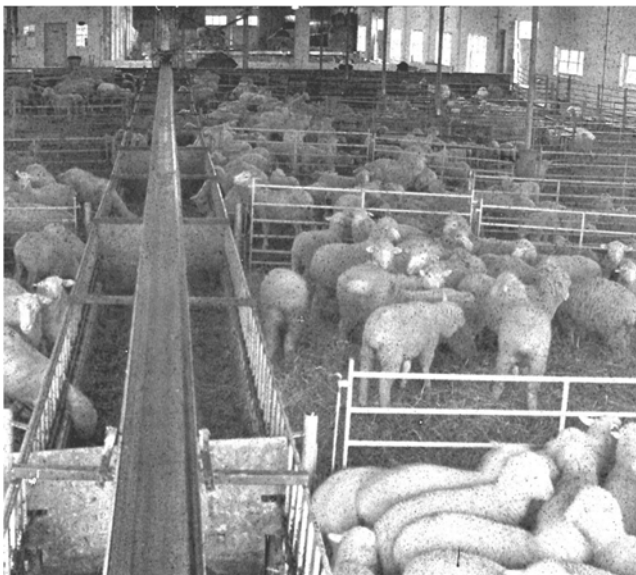
January 28

at the

Gardenville Hotel



Because the site was a former government experimental sheep farm, there were feed troughs down through the center of the barn, and huge cement dividers...like the dividers on the small side that today separate our training area from the Verizon area. The landlord removed the cement barriers and pens, and we were ready to start the cleanup of the barn.



The training barn way back when it was a sheep farm

Our treasury was rather small at the time, and we chose the playground mulch as the best surface that we could afford. We had a work day to lay down the mulch and do some prep work around the barn, such as adding extra lighting and doing some clean up.

Moving day to the new facility arrived on March 14, 1999. Members gathered at our storage facility, Jim's backyard, and the barn. Equipment was loaded and hauled and the barn was cleaned. In 2004, we had the walls professionally painted to brighten everything up.

For the first couple of years in the new facility, training in the summer was a challenge in distractions because the land owner kept cattle in the fields surrounding the building. When the windows were open, the cows, being curious creatures, liked to stick their heads in the windows and watch the dogs. We had to work hard for attention from our dogs!

In 2000, we decided that we needed an outdoor training area, and a work day was scheduled to clean up, mow, fence in, and install some lighting in the area off the side of the barn. Most of the members turned out for this, and the many hands got the work done quickly.

The year 2001 was a time of change and worry for the club. Our newly elected Treasurer discovered a lot of discrepancies with the treasury. She found a letter from the IRS from October 2000 stating that the proper paperwork was never filed under our new name for our tax-exempt status, even though we had been filing as a tax-exempt club for the previous 3 years. Paperwork for the state had been filed, but the federal was never done.

We retained a tax lawyer and an accountant to help us go over the books, file the proper paperwork, and straighten things out. We were told that we could be liable for 3 years of back taxes plus interest, which would have been at least \$8000-\$9000, which at that time would have mostly wiped out our treasury.

The Treasurer spent many hours talking with and emailing our tax lawyer and accountant. They advised us to plead ignorance and file as a 501(c)(7) sports club to avoid future tax problems, and this was done.

When the dust finally settled, we needed to make many changes to the By-Laws to comply with the 501(c)(7) rules, so that required more committee time and effort. If anyone wonders why our By-Laws sometimes seem strict, this is the reason why. As a 501(c)(7) club, we get a big break on taxes.

In 2002, we decided that we needed more training space and rented and fixed up the small side of the barn.

Continued on page 5



Membership Meeting Minutes

Kruisin' Kanines Minutes, November 3 2016

Location: Point Pleasant Firehouse, 6500 Point Pleasant Pike, New Hope, PA 18950 at 8:15pm

Minutes: The October meeting minutes were approved.

President's Report (Jeanie Burton):

Jeanie thanked everyone who helped with the UKI October trial.

Treasurer (Tony Luzynski):

Net cash flow was approximately negative \$7,600 on October 30, 2015. At the end of October 2016, net cash flow was approximately positive \$13,600.

Account Balances - As of 10/31/2016

Account	31-Oct-16	30-Sep-16	Change
Bank Accounts			
PayPal Account	\$ 540.00	\$ -	\$ 540.00
Univest Chk	19,158.89	23,149.40	(3,990.51)
Univest Sav	10,002.32	10,001.48	0.84
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$ 29,701.21	\$ 33,150.88	(3,449.67)
Cash Accounts			
Undeposited Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL Cash Accounts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 29,701.21	\$ 33,150.88	(3,449.67)

Committees

Training Committee (Carole Allen, Training Director):

- Session 5 will start next week. At this time there are 48 students signed up. Any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Carole.
- Session 4 had 49 students.
- Carole is looking into having heat available during class for the handlers and dogs in Ring 2.
- We will be welcoming a new instructor in 2017: Sue Tovino will be teaching on Thursday nights.
- January 16, 2017, will be the 1st session for 2017.

AKC 2016 Trials (Tony Luzynski):

- We are looking for 1-3 Trial Chairs for the 2017 season.
- The July trial still needs a judge, but the April and August trials have judges.

UKI 2016 Trial Committee (Teresa Koziatek):

- The October trial made \$1206.00, and \$233 was collected for The National Canine Cancer Foundation (NCCF) charity.
- A photo opportunity was setup for the exhibitors to take pictures with their dogs.

The UKI trial net income to KK for 2016 was \$3921 (Mar: \$1616, Jun: \$1099, Oct: \$1206).

- Paul Mount made a miscalculation on the Masters runs in the March trial, giving us an additional \$400.
- An approximate amount we could expect from 3 UKI trials in 2017 would be \$3300.

Membership Committee (Peg Antrobus):

No new members this month.

Library (Becky Forry):

The library is on hold at this time. However the current collection is available and resides in the office.

Website (Judy Eckenrode):

Allison Miele will take over as the Kruisin' Webmaster in December 2016.

2016 Banquet (Linda Goldman):

- Linda Goldman is handling the arrangements for our 2016 banquet.
- The banquet will be at the Gardenville Hotel, and the cost per person is \$30.
- Linda will see what 2017 Saturday nights are open at the Gardenville in January or February and report back to the membership.

Old Business:

- Alan Stifelman identified where the rotted timbers were located (where the silo meets the office). Tony Luzynski will discuss this with the landlord.
- Nominating Committee Status – the committee is having difficulty filling the President position. If you're interested, please contact the committee.

New Business:

- ACT test at the Kruisin barn. Tony has been approved by the AKC to give the ACT 1 and 2 tests and would like to offer them at the barn in December 2016. Kris Bartell volunteered to be his assistant.
- Jeanie Burton will be sending the general membership a Survey Monkey in December to see how many trials and which trials the membership would like to hold next year.
- Cindy Everett will be contacting Susie Diehl so she can help with forwarding the shoes to the Shoes Project.
- It would be nice to have a sign identifying Kruisin' Kanines placed at the end of the driveway to help the new students use the correct driveway.
- Andy Miele will look into plans for expanding the outdoor area in the spring of 2017. This would allow us to have an AKC 2-ring trial, and a nicer area for outside training.
- Sally Hunter asked if the board has considered changing the meetings to quarterly meetings. This would require a change in the current By Laws and at this time the board still needs to meet monthly to handle ongoing issues.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

**** The next meeting will be at the Point Pleasant Firehouse on Thursday December 1 at 8:15pm.**

Respectfully submitted by Diane Carney, Secretary



ESP-ing With Your Agility Dog

By Andy Miele

Animal Communication, eh, I know what you may be thinking. HOGWASH! However, since being around dogs so much, I am now a believer and really want to expand my knowledge and ability to do this. After all, I am a guy who believes that the “X-Files” are the gospel truth. Mulder for President!

I had been working with a couple communicators, such as Dina Melendez and Ronnie Yaskin. Ronnie Yaskin set us up with a person that can teach the subject. Her name is Lorelie. Two of my fellow Kruisers, Teresa Koziatek and Vanessa Santangelo, and I drove to Delaware one fine November morning to meet with her at her home. We did not need to bring our dogs, we needed only a photo of them and it could be on our cell phones.

When we got there, the atmosphere was relaxing and we introduced ourselves and got to tell why we were interested in this. For me, it was years ago when I first started agility: I would get very nervous before I ran. One day I had Aubrey, our brood bitch, at the line and I was a mess. Aubrey knew it. Suddenly, this feeling of peace and calm like I had never experienced came over me. I knew this was not coming from me—it had to be from Aubrey. She was saying “Relax, I got this!” Sure enough she qualified and did the same on day two. From then on, I knew there was something to this.

Next, Lorelie gave us some exercises to teach us to relax. You have to be relaxed to be a good listener, and listening is the key to communication. Take three deep breaths, relax your brow, jaw, and shoulders, imagine the dog or person you want to communicate with, and go with the first thing that pops into yer head. At this point, we were trying to send to each other. I sent an image of a yellow egg to Teresa and she thought it was a lemon! Well not exactly right, but pretty close. I failed to get what was sent to me. Being on pain killers for my knee surgery and still in pain does not help an inexperienced communicator. We did this a few times and then broke for lunch.

After lunch, we started talking with each others’ dogs, not our own. Each of us wanted answers to issues that we were interested in. So we paired up again, with Lorelie and her assistant there to confirm what we got. I had some luck getting answers from Vanessa’s dog Benny, but very little from Teresa’s dog Evie. Vanessa seemed to do the best, especially with my dogs Patton and Arielle, who have experience with communicators. I wanted to know why Patton just stares at me when he is on my lap, and his answer was quick and concise. Vanessa said he is bored and wants to do something. Well, we all know Patton, and usually he has more than enough to say, so we will end that there. Much of it can’t be repeated because he is Patton, ya know. This is supposed to be a PG article.



Patton



Arielle’s MACH 1

Vanessa also spoke with Arielle. I wanted to know how she was feeling and her reply was simply, “You worry too much.” I don’t think that is possible; we are all agility competitors here, and we know that our dogs must feel good to perform at their best. After all, Arielle is one of my best dogs ever, and how she is feeling is extremely important to me. So I had to correct her and tell her why. This was done verbally, of course, when I got home.



MacArthur

Lorelie spoke with MacArthur for me and he seemed gloomy. He was concerned about me lying around after my knee operation and wondered if I would walk again. We had to tell him that I would get better and he seemed to perk up after that.

Yer probably wondering what I got from Benny. Vanessa was interested in knowing if he wanted another dog around their household. Benny showed me an image of him snuggling with another dog, and I got a feeling that he is lonely at times. A rocket scientist is not needed to interpret this! His answer was a resounding YES! He wants company!

Call it what you want, but it does take practice. Some people have the gift, and others have to work at it. I encourage you to open your minds and learn how to listen to your dogs. Clean Runs to Ya!

See Alexandra Horowitz

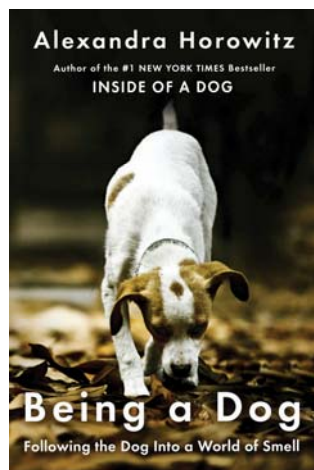
author of

Following the Dog into a World of Smell

December 6, 7:30 pm

At the Free Library of Philadelphia

Alexandra Horowitz is a cognitive scientist and the author of *Inside of a Dog: What Dogs See, Smell, and Know*, which was No. 1 on the *New York Times* best-seller list for more than 60 weeks. Her new book, *Being a Dog: Following the Dog into a World of Smell*, was just released in October. Horowitz teaches psychology, canine cognition, and creative nonfiction at Barnard College. She was also a lexicographer at Merriam-Webster, on staff at *The New Yorker*, and has studied the cognition of rhinos, bonobos, and that most bizarre animal, humans. Her latest book explains the ways dogs comprehend the world through their most acute and profound sense. (For info: <https://libwww.freelibrary.org/authorevents/?id=59680>)



If you can't make it to the event, Horowitz was interviewed on NPR's "Fresh Air" on October 4, 2016, 2:36pm ET ("From Fire Hydrants To Rescue Work, Dogs Perceive The World Through Smell") and CBS "Sunday Morning" on October 30 (<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/a-dogs-secret-life/>).

**Free: no admission charge,
so arrive 30-45 minutes early!**

Parkway Central Library location (1901 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103; between 19th and 20th Streets on the Parkway)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF KRUISIN' KANINES

Continued from page 2

The AKC rankings put our spring AKC trial at 25th in the nation in attendance, and our NADAC trial had the largest number of member-volunteers ever. We received many kudos from judges and exhibitors on how smoothly the trials were run.



Things ran fairly smoothly for the club until 2005. This was a very controversial year for Kruisin' Kanines. Partially due to the constraints of the 501(c)(7) Social Club designation, there was a great deal of disagreement between some of the members of the Board and the Training Director. This unfortunately resulted in a group of members splitting from the club to form their own training group.

Those who broke away wanted to be more specialized and gear their training program strictly toward competitions. The group that split felt that the demos were detrimental to their competition dogs, and they felt that the club should no longer hold demos.

It has always been the creed of Kruisin' Kanines that we train for the fun of it, and anyone who wants to train would be welcome, whether or not they intended to compete. Our Social Club designation also dictates that we cannot discriminate in our membership. Some of the Board felt that having only those who wanted to train for competition was not only against our By-Laws, but also against the 501(c)(7) designation. At the time, the arguments were rather bitter.

The club survived the split, and came out stronger than ever, and here we are 20 years later, still going strong!

Finally...Our New Home!



Upcoming Kruisin' Events



Weekly Club Events 2016

December 2016

December 1 – Membership Meeting 8:15pm at the Firehouse (Note: This is a Thursday night)

December 17 – Barn work day, 9am-noon

January 2017

January 16 – Classes begin

January 28 – Banquet and General Membership meeting @ the Gardenville Hotel

Every Sunday: Run Thrus all day, unless another club event is scheduled

For a detailed look at all Kruisin' Classes and Events, visit

www.kruisinkanines.com and

click: [Kruisin' Kanines Calendar](#)

For the Barn Use Schedule

click: [Barn Use Calendar](#)

TeeterTales deadline: 19th of the prior month

Meet Joanna Fleming

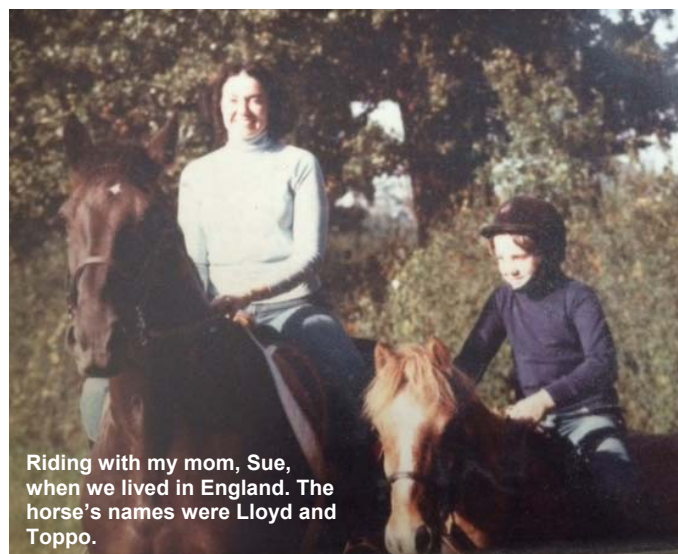
Hi, I've been a Kruisin' member since July 2016. I have quite the menagerie in addition to my two German Shepherds, Jersey (half yellow lab) and Cooper. I also have three parrots (an African Gray, a Meyers parrot, and a Cockatiel), and two cats (Iggy and Evander), and they all get along! In fact, they love each other! Well, the cats are a little afraid of the birds because they've been bitten a couple of times, so they don't mess with them. But the cats love the dogs. It's a big happy family!

I got into agility because I felt like I needed to bond more closely with Cooper. I'd had Jersey for so long (he's 9), and he was my A #1 guy. We always did a lot of hiking together, I'm always outdoors doing that or biking. When Baby Cooper came along, I thought I needed something special to do just with him. I found Kruisin' Kanines online and sent an email off to the training director at the time, who was Rosemary McQuate. I started taking private lessons with Rosemary in the fall of 2014 because my work schedule made it tough to get into any group classes.

Cooper, who is 3½ years old, and I have been in several trials, including the AKC trials at the club, The German Shepherd Club AKC trial in Doylestown, and a UKI trial. Cooper loves it. He's great—and he's speedy! Loves his weave poles! He is such a good guy and so much fun. I am trying to button up a few things before I get him back into trialing again in the spring. We're also taking the nose work classes with Stacy Barnett, and both of my boys absolutely love it.

I've been in Newtown, PA, since about 1988, but I've been lucky enough to live in various places (due to my father's career) as I was growing up. I was born in Wisconsin, and then we moved to West Chester, PA. When I was in third grade, we moved to Brussels, Belgium, for about a year, and then to London, England, for a few years. When we were living in Europe we did a lot of traveling. It was a fantastic experience. When I was in sixth grade, we moved back to the United States, to the Saratoga Springs area in upstate New York. We moved to Newtown when I was in eleventh grade.

My mom was a horseback rider, so I started riding horses when I was really young. My mom bought a horse when we were in London and had him shipped back to the United States when we moved back here. He actually lived to the age of 37! My mom did a lot of fox hunting, and I was really involved in pony club and



Riding with my mom, Sue, when we lived in England. The horse's names were Lloyd and Toppo.

combined training. We had an English cocker spaniel in London (Jolly), who we brought home with us, too. We showed her in confirmation and she received her championship title. After that, we bred her and kept some of the puppies. So, thanks to my mom, I was always into animals from a very young age—I'm a total animal lover.



I graduated from Gettysburg College with a degree in Philosophy, but what do you do with that?? So, logically, I landed a job as a groom for standardbred race horses, the trotters and pacers for harness racing for a few years. Then I became a chef and worked at Meil's restaurant in Stockton, NJ, for 9 years. I loved it, but needed a change, so I went back to school, studying biology, chemistry, and physics, with the hopes of going to graduate school for physical therapy. I loved school (if I could be a full-time student, I would), but it made me decide I didn't want to be a hands-on physical therapist. After much perseverance, I made my way into the pharmaceutical industry, and for the last 10 years, I've been working in regulatory affairs. Currently, I work for Bayer HealthCare, in the Consumer Health division managing over-the-counter products from a regulatory perspective. If you've seen any TV ads for Claritin or MiraLAX, chances are, I reviewed and approved them!

Besides agility, I enjoy hiking, biking, snowboarding (generally being outdoors), bird watching, traveling, and eating out—I love good food! I also cook just for pleasure at home now. And, at the age of 45, I'm going to be in my first-ever weight-lifting competition on December 18 in Philadelphia!

I'm also getting a new addition to the family, a male German Shepherd puppy from Tennessee, sometime after Christmas. We're all looking forward to the arrival of our new little boy!

A day at the park with Jersey (left) and Cooper (right) in Milford, PA.



Kruisin' UKI Trial Wrap Up

Number of Runs 10/29: **123**

Masters Series Entries: **15**

Profit: **\$1206**

Donated to Charity: **\$233**

UKI Net trial income for 2016:
\$3921

Special thanks to Teresa Koziatek for her many hours of hard work coordinating the UKI trials on behalf of Kruisin' Kanines!



Susie Diehl draws the winning ticket for the \$233 donated to The National Canine Cancer Foundation (NCCF)

HAPPY NEW YEAR

For general information visit www.kruisinkanines.com

Training Schedule

Mondays

6:30-7:30 pm Foundations 2 (w/Anna Burbank)
7-8:30 pm Fancy Handling (w/Jeanie Burton)
7:45-8:45pm Beginner Agility (w/Anna Burbank)

Tuesdays

6-7pm Skills & Handling (w/Dina Melendez)
7-8 pm Foundations 1 (w/Dina Melendez)
8:15-9:15pm Skills & Drills (w/Kim Sector)

Wednesdays

9:30-11am Advanced (w/Konnie McCaffree)
5-6 pm Nose Work1 Prep (w/Stacy Barnett)
6-7pm Intro to NW Elements (w/Stacy Barnett)
6:30-8pm Masters & Beyond! (w/Jeff Abel)
7-8 pm Intro to NW Elements (w/Stacy Barnett)
8-9pm Developing Amazing Weaves (Jeff Abel)
8-9pm Intro to Nose Work (w/Stacy Barnett)

Thursdays

10:30am-noon Intermediate (w/Rosemary McQuate)



THE BOARD

President: **Jeanie Burton**

Vice President: **Teresa Koziatek**

Treasurer: **Tony Luzynski**

Secretary: **Diane Carney**

DIRECTORS:

Konnie McCaffree

Dina Melendez

Cindy Everett

Bernadette Fletcher

Linda Goldman

TRAINING DIRECTOR:

Carole Allen

Kruisin' Kanines holds a General Membership meeting once a month. The Board of Directors also meets once a month. If you would like to attend either meeting, please check the Kruisin' website calendar for dates and times.