

TEETER TALES



The official newsletter of Kruisin' Kanines

www.kruisinkanines.com

Vol 21 • Issue 5 • May 2016

MAY IS PET CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

By Allison Walker

I have learned a lot about dog cancers lately. When I was a kid, we lost many dogs to cancer. Then, for years, our dogs died of other things—other diseases many of which are also shared by humans. Only a couple seemed to die from old age.

I have more questions than answers about these cancers: Why do they occur? What causes them? Is it genetic? The water? The food? Pollution? Immune deficiency? Their shots and pills and other common treatments? All the chemicals in our houses, from carpets to paint to cleaners to what we track in on our shoes? There are a million possibilities and potential combinations of causes.

A friend recently sent me newsletter from Petplan, a pet insurance company. I was not aware that any pet insurance covered cancer therapies, and have never had pet insurance—one of many things to second-guess oneself about through the canine cancer treatment process.

I have learned over the last 5 months how many Kruisin' members (and neighborhood dog owners) have lost dogs to this insidious disease, in one form or another. I am so grateful for everyone's support and knowledge. Here are some things I learned from the Petplan Cancer Guide: (<http://www.gopetplan.com/pet-cancer-guide/>)

↪ 12 million dogs and cats will be diagnosed with cancer this year.

↪ Nearly 50% of disease-related pet deaths are due to cancer.

↪ About 1 in 4 dogs will develop some type of tumor during their lifetime.

According to the guide, cancer is the result of damage to a dog's DNA. It is usually caused by environmental exposure to carcinogens (such as tobacco smoke, radiation, and pesticides). It is exacerbated by chronic inflammation and obesity.

Some breeds inherit damaged DNA, and certain breeds are prone to specific types of cancer. Unfortunately, as I have experienced, dogs can have two kinds of cancer at time (which seems pretty unfair to me). Maybe mutts inherit a double dip.

The best thing is to be vigilant and proactive—I know all Kruisers are very attuned to their dogs. We all consider our dogs' condition and overall health to be paramount. The pet cancer guide advises reducing cancer risks by spaying or neutering early, reducing exposure to toxins, managing their weight, and feeding them a diet with enough fiber, healthy fats (omega 3s), and antioxidants. All but toxin exposure are fairly manageable. It's been amazing to learn of the drug and other

Continued on page 6

Board/Membership Meetings

Tuesday, June 7

Board 6:30pm, Membership 8:15pm @ the Barn

Barn Work Days

Sunday, May 15, 10am-noon

Friday, June 3, 6-8pm

KK₉ Agility Club AKC Trial July 2 & 3 Kruisin' Barn,

See page 3

For information, go to <http://kruisinkanines.com/akc-trial-july-2-july-3-2016/>

UKI Trial June 4 @ the Barn Premium Closes online May 24

Day of show entries if trial doesn't fill.

For info go to: <http://kruisinkanines.com/uki-trial-june-4-2016-information/>

KRUISIN' DEMO DAY

MAY 14 8am - 3pm

Mayors Park, 114 E Maple Ave
Langhorne, PA

Therapy Dogs at Work



Bob & Marshall

Marshall participates in a program where he visits the Bucks County Dependency Court approximately once a month. His role is to provide children and their parents or guardians solace in the stressful situation when the children appear in open court, and decisions regarding their future residencies are made. The stress is palpable. Marshall spends an hour visiting with families in the hallway outside of the courtroom as they await their turn before the judge. Marshall does tricks for the children and lays on his back for belly rubs. On some occasions, if the children request it, Marshall accompanies them into the courtroom and sits at their side during their session. Marshall has also been asked to go to judges' chambers when a judge wants to speak with the children out of earshot of their parents. Again, Marshall sits right next to the child who is petting him for comfort as he fearfully speaks with the judge.

Interestingly, at least to me, the parents/guardians, who are more aware of the seriousness of the decisions being made, seem to be more relieved by Marshall's presence outside the courtroom than the children are. The children just see Marshall as a friendly dog to play with.

Judy & Casey

Our first assignment after we became a registered therapy dog team was at the Northampton Public Library "Read to the Dogs" summer program in Richboro. Kids from the pre-school through 6th grade would gather in the children's library each week to read to the dogs for 6 weeks. Casey was such a big hit with the kids that we were asked to continue to come to the library throughout the year, so the first and third Saturday of each month you will find Casey surrounded by kids at the library.

The children take a special interest in Casey because of his blindness and not only read to him, but go into great detail describing the pictures to him, explaining to him how different things smell, feel, and taste. Did you know that blue smells like fresh air, feels like a cool breeze on your whiskers, and tastes like blueberries? This past month was very special for one little girl, who for several months had come to the library with her cousins. But she was terrified of dogs and tears would stream down her face just looking at Casey from far across the room. Every month, her cousins would try encouraging her to read to Casey, but her fear kept her away. However, this month she called across the room and asked if she could read to Casey from about 20 feet away, and tell him about the pictures in her book. She slowly came closer with each story she read, and before she left that day, she gave Casey a kiss on the nose and a two-arm hug around



the neck. She smiled from ear to ear. She was so proud of herself! She had never touched a dog before. When it was time to go, I asked her if she would like to walk Casey out to the car. Her smile got even bigger as she proudly took the leash and announced to everyone, "Today is my 8th birthday, and I love Casey!" As I looked behind me, I saw tears of joy in the eyes of her family. Casey had accomplished what no one else could.

[Continued on page 3](#)

To learn more about therapy dog work, you are welcome to contact any of us about our experience.

Cindy & Luke

Luke and I have many different types of visits while at the hospital. A few of the most rewarding are with patients who are reported to be nonresponsive. On one such visit, the family of an elderly man saw Luke in the hallway and invited us into their room. They said their father was not responding to anyone, but that they would like to visit with Luke. My eyes were drawn to the patient, and I saw him look directly at Luke and turn his head to follow my dog's movements. Luke walked up to the bed and stood with his head ever so slightly on the man's hand. I knew he was looking at Luke and recognized that a dog was with him. I knelt down beside Luke to make myself smaller. Then, ever so slowly, the elderly man's hand raised and he petted Luke with long, slow movements. His eyes were locked on Luke and his lips curled into a small smile. The two seemed to be speaking to each other through their eyes. Because I had knelt down, I had a great view of this interaction, and in my mind I snapped pictures so I would never forget the exchange. The family was amazed! For just a few moments, this man was taken to a happy place. Luke was able to give this family the great gift of knowing their father was still with them, and allowed them to speak freely and stroke his arm. This is the power of what a dog can do!



KK9 AKC Agility Trial Saturday, July 2 • Sunday, July 3

At the Kruisin' Kanines Training Facility

Premium available at
kruisinkanines.com

JUDGE: Sally Gichner

SATURDAY: FAST, STD, & JWW

SUNDAY: Prem STD, STD, T2B, Prem JWW, JWW

Premium closes June 14, 2016

Trial Hours: Saturday & Sunday - 7:00am to 7:00pm, rain or shine

Membership Meeting Minutes

Kruisin' Kanines Minutes, April 6, 2016

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

Minutes: Approved the February and March meeting minutes.

President's Report (Jeanie Burton):

Remember the May meeting location is at the Kruisin' barn. There is a work day this Friday, April 8, from 6-8pm.

Treasurer's Report (Tony Luzynski):

Committees:

Account Balances - As of 03/31/2016

Account	31-Mar-16	29-Feb-16	Change
Bank Accounts			
PayPal Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Univest Chk	12,449.59	13,590.02	(1,140.43)
Univest Sav	5,000.41	5,000.00	0.41
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$ 17,450.00	\$ 18,590.02	\$ (1,140.02)
Cash Accounts			
Undeposited Funds	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ (600.00)
TOTAL Cash Accounts	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ (600.00)
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ 17,450.00	\$ 19,190.02	\$ (1,740.02)

Training Committee (Carole Allen, Training Director):

- The new session started this week following the new guidelines of 6 students per class, and all classes are 8 weeks in length.
- The two new classes, "Masters and Beyond" and "Introduction to Fancy Handling," are both full. Foundation 1 is also full, but this time the nonmember students outnumber the member students.
- Last month during the 2-week gap where Konnie's Advanced class did not meet while they waited for the other classes to catch up, so that all the classes could begin the next session together, Carole taught two workshops designed for Konnie's students. "Motivation for Speed and Attention" and "Highway Driving/City Driving." The latter focused on obstacle vs handler focus, and extension and collection.
- There will be some changes and additions during this current session and Carol is working on some potential seminars and camps.

AKC April Trial (Tony Luzynski):

Help is needed for the following positions: Raffle, Hospitality, Ring Captains (need 6, have Konnie, Jeanie, and Andy). Rosemary is doing measuring.

[Continued on page 5](#)

UKI Trial Committee (Teresa Koziatek):

- The March UKI trial had 153 runs and took in \$1600 in income.
- The June 4th trial is still looking for a judge. Paul Mount will be doing the scoring for \$500, and will provide the ribbons and take entries.
- Carol Mount will be the judge for our October trial.

Website Committee (Judy Eckenrode):

Judy redesigned the front page so everything is now under tabs.

All the website screens will display differently according to the device being used. The website will now display correctly on all mobile devices.

Library (Becky Forry):

A shelf will be installed in the future to hold the DVDs and books.

The club's subscription to *Clean Run* will not be renewed. The club members will donate their copies of *Clean Run* to the library.

We are having a problem with library items being taken and not returned. This will need to be resolved before any new items are purchased.

Old Business:

- There is a demo on May 7 [NOTE: changed to May 14] at Langhorne. Contact Alan for more details.
- There is a demo on July 4th at Fonthill. Alan needs people to commit to working this demo by the end of this week or the demo will be cancelled.
- At this time there have been no new logo designs submitted to the board.
- Open Agility will be held twice in April, and then Judy Eckenrode will give an update to the board and membership during the May meetings.

New Business:

The following wording for the section in the P and P about moving from active to associate and back to active membership has been approved as stated (below) and goes into effect immediately. It will be posted on the Kruisin website within 1 month:

Transitions Between Active and Associate Membership:

All Members will enter the club as Active Members unless they specifically request to be Associate members. Any member who is not indebted to the club may change his or her membership status

Kruisin' Kanines Minutes, April 6, 2016, continued from page 4

from/to Active or Associate at any time by notifying the Membership Chair. Section 6 of the bylaws states that unpaid dues and training fees are considered a debt. Members indebted to the club must seek Board approval in order to change their status and outstanding dues must be paid.

Active members are required to perform two work days and attend two membership meetings annually. Active members who fail to complete either the annual workdays or meetings will only be permitted to renew their membership as an Associate Member. The assignment of this status is automatic. The Membership Chair will so notify these members. After 6-months as Associates, they may request that the Board reinstate their Active status. This request must contain a statement indicating that they are prepared to participate in both the workdays and meetings required for Active membership.

Active members, having long-term issues such as health, employment or other problems that prevent them from participating in workdays or attending meetings, should request that the Board review their situation to determine if a waiver or substitution is appropriate.

• Due to many members having training classes on Wednesday night, the board decided to rotate the board/membership meetings around to other nights. From October thru April, the meetings will be held at the firehouse on Wednesdays due to the current contract. Dates are:

Monday, May 2, @ the barn
Tuesday, June 7, @ the barn
Thursday, July 7, @ the barn
Monday, August 1, @ the barn ** board only** Membership will have their meeting during the August picnic.
Tuesday, September 6, at the barn

- Members asked if a class is in session on the A side of the barn, can a person work their dog on the B side? Jeanie suggested that they contact the instructor whose class is ongoing for approval.
- The floor cleaning machine needs to be charged by this Friday night. Judy will plug in the machine on Thursday.
- If you see a problem with something at the barn please use the posting board for all barn and maintenance issues.
- FYI: There is a Monarch butterfly preserve area on the left side going down to the pond.
- The registrations on both Kruisin trailers need to be checked for when they expire.
- The discussion about how the members feel about supporting three AKC and three UKI trials will be addressed at the end of the year after all the trials are over.
- Barn Maintenance position was reviewed. Since no one was identified at this time we will see if the items can be handled during the work days. Linda Goldman will talk to Alan about the work needed to maintain the tractor for mowing.

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Carney, Secretary

**** Next meeting will be @ the barn on Monday, May 2, at 8:15pm.**



Upcoming Kruisin' Events

May 2016

May 1 – AKC Trial in Pittman NJ

May 2 – Board Meeting 6:30pm & Membership Meeting 8:15pm @ the Barn (Note: This is a Monday night)

May 14 – Demo at Langhorne Pet Fair

May 15 – Barn Work Day noon-2pm

May 22-May 28 – All classes in the second training session ends this week

June 2016

June 3 – Barn Work Night 6pm-8pm

June 4 – UKI Trial at Kruisin'

June 7 – Board Meeting 6:30pm & Membership Meeting 8:15pm @ the Barn (Note: This is a Tuesday night)

June 30 – Barn Work Night 6pm-8pm (counts as July's work day)

July 2016

July 2 & July 3 – AKC Trial at Kruisin' barn

July 4 – Demo at Fonthill July 4th Festival

July 7 – Board Meeting 6:30pm & Membership Meeting 8:15pm @ the Barn (Note: This is a Thursday night)

WEEKLY CLUB EVENTS 2016

Every Sunday: Barn is open for Sunday Run Thrus all day, unless another club event is scheduled!

For a detailed look at all Kruisin' Classes and Events:

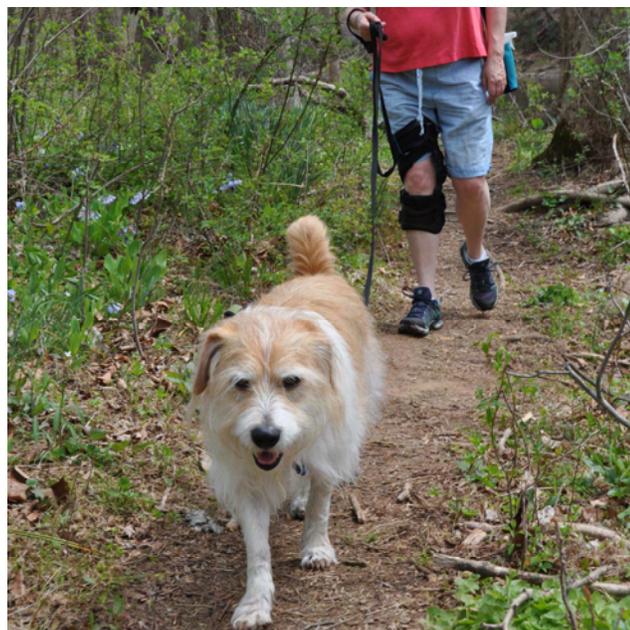
click: [Kruisin' Kanines Calendar](#)

For the Barn Use Schedule

click: [Barn Use Calendar](#)

treatments available today for the variety of cancers I've encountered. It was equally amazing to learn that mainstream veterinary oncologists are prescribing nutritional and herbal remedies, as well as holistic treatments like acupuncture. Thanks to Kruisin' friends, I had heard about some of them. Knowing that there are therapies available that help us maintain a good, if not excellent quality of life for our cancer patients really helps. As with everything in life, we learn as we go.

If it were not for a fluke, Henson wouldn't have had an ultrasound looking for something else but finding three nasty little tumors. If not for the surgery to remove those, he wouldn't be alive. If not for the agility friends who told me about their experiences, I wouldn't have half the resources and support I do. If not for the vets who monitor his condition, I wouldn't be enjoying this self-limiting extra time with him (the last ultrasound showed 4 new tumors, 3 in the liver and 1 in the spleen). Now, I'm the weird lady walking with the squirt bottle "watering the trees" even when it's raining in an effort to diminish exposing other creatures to his medications. I've pretty well perfected getting a bread bag tucked under him when he squats. We attract a lot of attention. As a result, I'm sharing knowledge with strangers everywhere we go, building awareness about something I'd never thought would be my daily routine and reality. I guess that's the underbelly of the silver lining. The shiny part is he doesn't know he has cancer—he's just aware that we are enjoying every moment we have.



Henson and his squirt bottle photo by Cindy Everett

KK9 April AKC Stats

387 Total dogs participated

301 Dogs ran on Saturday

755 Total runs on Saturday

334 Dogs ran on Sunday

782 Total runs on Sunday

Do you have a story? Write an article for the next issue of **TeeterTales!**

Looking for article and interview ideas, dog photos and cartoons, personal stories, book/video/course reviews, dog food/treat recipes, dog jokes, and brags. Send contributions and suggestions to Allison at: awwalker2@gmail.com



Photo taken by Teresa Purdy at 10:04pm on Friday after setting up the April KK9 AKC trial. "We were all dead tired!!!"

UKI Trial June 4 @ the Kruisin' Barn

Premium closes online May 24 • Day of show entries if trial doesn't fill • Judge: Oksana Syrkin

Trial includes all levels of the International and Speedstakes Programs, plus Nursery and a Masters Tournament. A worker raffle will be held and we will provide food for all.

Not familiar with UKI? UKI is a great venue for beginners to gain trial experience, yet it also offers challenging, technical courses for experienced teams:

- Try Before You Buy (TBYB) Registration Option - enter your first UKI trial without paying for UKI membership. (You must still register with the UKI and pay the event registration fees). To keep the UKI membership (and any points earned), payment for registration is due to UKI within 7 working days after trial.
- Nursery Agility class: no teeter, tire, weave poles, or spread jumps for dogs 15 months or older. Not a titling class, but clear-round ribbons are issued. Dogs 18+ months can enter "regular" classes.
- The "Not for Competition (NFC)" Option allows you to train in a trial environment. Toys are permitted in the ring.

The challenging Masters Tournament comprises Agility and Jumping rounds, and includes a chance to earn \$\$\$. Dogs already competing in USDAA, AKC or CPE can "transfer" to an equivalent level in UKI at the time they register with UKI—no need to start at Beginner. Premium details transfer levels. For more information about all the rules and classes in UKI go to: www.ukagilityinternational.com/PDFs/RulesSecondEdition.pdf

Any questions? Contact Show Manager, Teresa Koziatek, at teresakoziatek1@gmail.com

For general information visit www.kruisinkanines.com

Training Schedule

Beginners: No classes scheduled this session

Foundation 1: Tuesday 7 – 8pm

Foundation 2: Monday 7 – 8pm

Skills: Monday 7– 8pm

Intermediate: Tuesday 7 – 8pm

Advanced (Day): Wednesday 9:30 – 11:00am

Advanced (Evening): Thursday 8 – 9pm

Excellent/Masters: Wednesday 6 – 7pm

Masters and Beyond: Wednesday 7 – 8pm

Intro to Fancy Handling: Thursday 6:45 – 7:45pm

At the Barn, please remember to keep your dog on leash or crated unless it's your turn at the obstacle, sequence, or on course.

THE BOARD

President: Jeanie Burton

Vice President: Teresa Koziatek

Treasurer: Tony Luzynski

Secretary: Diane Carney

DIRECTORS:

Konnie McCaffree

Dina Melendez

Cindy Everett

Judy Eckenrode

Linda Goldman

TRAINING DIRECTOR:

Carole Allen

Kruisin' Kanines holds its General Membership meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:15pm. The Board of Directors also meets the first Wednesday of each month. If you would like to attend either meeting, please call for more information.