



UNLEASHED

Volume 32 Issue 6 A publication of the Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club June 2021

2021 Meeting/Event Dates

Meeting: Wednesday, June 2
Home of Jan Eichensehr
6:30 p.m.
Pizza for dinner

Meeting/Event Dates

June 2
July 7
September 1
October 6
November 3
December TBA

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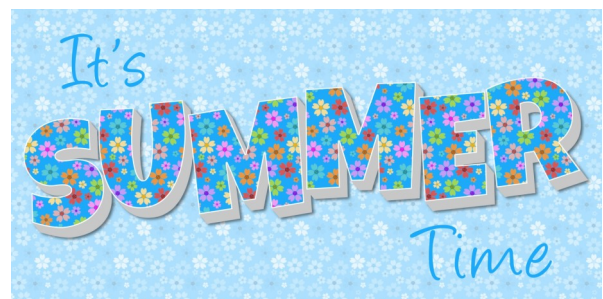
CHECK OUT CENTRAL OHIO LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB
ON FACEBOOK
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/575516432535825/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/575516432535825/)

**June 2, 2021 is the date of
the next COLRC Meeting at
the home of Jan
Eichensehr.**

Pizza is on the menu.

**Agenda includes spring
specialty “wrap up” and
feasibility of a fall COLRC
Specialty**

Please plan to attend!



Angular Limb Deformity in Dogs: Puppy Bowed Legs

Last updated: February 22, 2021

There are several types of angular limb deformities seen in dogs, usually identified when they are puppies. An angular limb deformity means the bones, usually of the front legs, do not grow as straight as they are expected to. In the lower front leg, the radius and ulna are the two parallel bones. If they do not grow at the same rate due to damage to a growth plate, the leg will begin to bow either inward or outward. In dachshunds, the tibia, the lower bone in the rear leg, can be affected.

The causes of angular limb deformities include trauma and genetic or congenital factors. The bowing of the leg due to the deformity is likely to lead to joint damage if the disorder is not recognized and corrected promptly.

Varus and Valgus Deformity in Dogs

A deformity where the foot rotates outward is called a valgus deformity. When the deformity rotates the foot inward, it is called a varus deformity. Symptoms include a change in the direction of the foot, a shortening of the leg, lameness, pain, swelling, and/or decreased range of motion of the affected joint(s).

This deformity can occur in one leg or in matching sets of legs, meaning both front legs or both back legs. Trauma is likely to affect one leg. Genetic or nutritional problems are likely to affect matching left and right legs. X-rays are critical in assessing for trauma, damage, and joint involvement. Quality X-rays including the elbows are essential.

Causes of Canine Angular Limb Deformity

The most commonly affected breeds are chondrodystrophic breeds. In other words, breeds with short limbs such as Pembroke and Cardigan Welsh corgis, dachshunds and basset hounds. But these deformities can also affect Shetland sheepdogs, collies, Newfoundlands and Rottweilers.

Badly healed fractures can also cause angular limb defects. Any time there is a fracture or trauma to a growth plate, or other evidence the foot is beginning to deviate inward or outward, prompt veterinary intervention is essential to minimize damage and arthritis.

In many cases, angular limb deformities are caused by trauma to the growth plate of the ulna, the longer bone in the lower front leg. This trauma causes the growth plate to close in the ulna before the growth plate in the radius, the parallel bone, closes. This means the ulna stops growing while the radius continues to grow. This causes the foot to begin to deviate outward, a valgus deformity. This can also be caused by a genetic or congenital defect, causing one or both growth plates to close prematurely.

This growth plate closure secondarily causes a malalignment of the elbow, called elbow incongruity. There is associated lameness; if this is not corrected with surgical intervention, will lead to significant elbow arthritis as the dog ages. In most cases, this specialized surgery should be performed by a surgical specialist, a board-certified surgeon.

Early Intervention

Early intervention is critical for a good outcome, particularly if the puppy has a significant amount of growth yet to achieve. If there is lameness, intervention is more important. Some patients will respond to nutritional adjustments. Too much protein and fat in the diet or adding calcium and/or phosphorus can contribute to angular limb deformities.

All dogs who appear to be developing these angular limb deformities require close monitoring. Surgical intervention may be required if nutritional adjustments do not lead to a resolution.

If you have further questions on bowed legs in puppies, contact your veterinarian or call us at [800.786.4751](tel:800.786.4751).

-Dr. Greer

Marty Greer, DVM, Director of Veterinary Services at Revival Animal Health



Down 'n Backs

Tremont's My Way

MVLRC Specialty

5/14/21

Best in Sweeps

Owners: Lori & John Bentine

Captain Nick's Shiver Me

Timbers

Medina Swarm Agility Club

4/25/21

Q'd in 5 Level 5 CPE Agility Runs

Earned his Standard Run

Championship

Owner: Christine Nickerson

Captain Nick's Rogue Wave

Medina Swarm Agility Club

4/25/21

Q'd in 5 Level 5 CPE Agility Runs

Owner: Christine Nickerson

General COLRC Information



The **UNLEASHED!** is a publication by and for the members of the **Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club** and others interested in the betterment of the sport and advancement of cooperative communication within the Labrador community and the dog fancy.

The articles and information contained in this publication have been deemed by the editor to be of interest to our readers but do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or the opinions of the editor or COLRC members. Reader input is actively solicited.

Please address or email all articles, announcements, comments and suggestions to newsletter@colrc.com. Unleashed is published ten to twelve times per year. Closing for each issue is the 20th day of the month prior to publication.

Dues are \$25 annually for a single membership and \$40 for a joint membership. Business cards will be placed on the COLRC website for the year at a cost of \$50 for members and non-members.

Club members who wish to utilize the Litter Listing Column of the newsletter and website will be required to pay \$50 per litter listing unless they have worked at two of our three club events during the course of the year.

Meetings General meetings shall take place the first Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

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Vice President.....	Lori Bentine	(Term expires Dec 2021)
Treasurer.....	Linda Bednarski	(Term expires Dec 2021)
Secretary.....	Brian Tipton	(Term expires Dec 2021)

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Eye Clinic.....	Jennifer Stotts

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