



UNLEASHED

Volume 34 Issue 7 A publication of the Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club July/August 2023

2023 Meeting/Event Dates

Meeting: No summer meetings

Next meeting: August 30

6:00 p.m.

Home of Jan Eichenseh

Tentative Meeting/Event Dates:

August 30	Wednesday
October 4	Wednesday
November 1	Wednesday
December	TBA

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ON FACEBOOK

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/575516432535825/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/575516432535825/)

End of An Era

Jennifer Stotts

I can still remember how excited I was when the talk started of forming a Labrador Retriever Club for the Central Ohio area. I was brand new to dogs and full of enthusiasm, energy and dreams and in my mind, joining a club with these icons of the breed in Ohio meant I had been accepted into the dog world. Our goal was to become a club that could host a specialty and we jumped though all the hoops to make that happen. That was over three decades ago. Of the folks that convened to form The Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club, many have passed away, others have been "out of dogs" for years, and then there's the handful of us left that were there at the inception. So, disbanding this group that has been such a significant element of my life for so many years truly is the end of an era and I am waxing nostalgic.

It's a sign of the times in dogs. Even before COVID, some of the smaller all breed clubs were folding, primarily because their membership base had dwindled to a few older folks doing all the work, and they just couldn't do it

anymore. COVID led to the demise of more of the small all breed clubs. Hosting a show is expensive and that has led to many of the remaining smaller clubs banding together to host cluster weekends, and while I am being nostalgic, I miss the old small show weekends like the Dan Emmet KC shows at the Kokosing River Camp and Canoe grounds, or the small show in Troy, OH in the summer....I could name so many more. There used to be a weekend in July where we would literally set up camp in Mansfield on Friday, move to Medina on Saturday and Burton on Sunday....I couldn't work that hard now, but I still miss weekends like that.

I have so many good memories of the COLRC....we used to have big Christmas parties, with members shopping all year for THE item for the most desirable item for the gift exchange which would get stolen the maximum number of times in our good-hearted battle. Chris Bell would always have to shout for Marty to get in there to pick out his gift. Someone would invariably bring something inappropriate (ummmm.....negligee and fart spray come to mindand the other "item" that showed up one year....). We ate until we were miserable, drank heartily, and laughed until we couldn't breathe...usually because of something Steve Hrinko said. I have pictures from those early Christmas parties that show Sally Bell's living room packed with people.

We even had a summer picnic a few times. Barb Scott hosted it back when she lived on Sportsman Club Road and had a pool and if memory serves me correctly, we even rented a hot tub one year there. And then there was the year that we had the summer party at Kim and Dan Frye's house in Danville and a storm blew up that had us seeking shelter and I remember Dennis and I literally couldn't get home because every road we tried either had trees down or water over the road. We finally made it to our road only to be stopped mere feet from our house from multiple trees down. I think we even had a pig roast that year at Kim's.

For at least a year, maybe more, we hosted the Labrador Day of Fun at Sportsman Club in Johnstown, doing different fun things with our Labradors, and inviting non-members to participate and see what fun they could have with their Labs.

We used to have field practices and even held a couple of Working Certificate Tests. I still have the best picture of Tyler Bentine sitting in the field at the working area at Delaware with Labrador puppies crawling all over him while he laughed. It's the best Labrador advertisement!

Our meetings used to overflow with members and we have had meetings all over Columbus...MedVet, Lone Star Steakhouse (which no longer exists), Bruno's (which no longer exists), a bar over in the Sawmill area, Senor Antonios, and many members' houses including the annual lasagna dinner at Lori Bentine's house to deliver our raffle items; puppy socialization meetings at Jan Eichensehr's house; a couple of occasions where Linda Bednarski actually cooked for us :) at her new house; a house warming/meeting at Christian and Brian's new house and more. The meetings always ended with "Braggs and Bitches". We had quite a variety of speakers when we had enough attendees to make it worthwhile. And another tradition was to have a party when a member acquired a new house (parties that occasionally involved livestock :)

We've had an outstanding newsletter for the duration of the club, most recently produced and distributed by Christine Nickerson, prior to that, Steve LaVelle and Lori Bentine before Steve. I can't remember who our first newsletter editor was. When we started, Sally used to have a monthly column with pearls of wisdom and observations from the dog world and we recently republished some of those columns which are still applicable today. We've always given members a forum to brag about their successes and announce litters and keep relevant information flowing.

I'm not sure when the club began holding what started out as an eye and tattoo clinic (yes, it was so long ago that we offered tattoo services for permanent ID) at The Animal Hospital of Worthington. At some point, I took over management of the health clinic and we moved to Refugee Canyon and then Dr. Mann's Vet Clinic. I know I have been manning the health clinic way too long because I was doing it for years before Dr. Metzler's daughter was born...I still remember how she was so busy the year she was pregnant for her that she barely had time to use the bathroom....and her daughter graduated from high school this year.

When we finally began hosting our own specialties, we were at Delaware until recent years, sometimes with an independent specialty prior to the all-breed shows and sometimes as a specialty at the all-breed shows. As a club, we've offered some pretty amazing hospitality....Mel's Diner, with Jan Eichensehr and Barb Scott as Mel's helpers and Greg King as Mel. We've done chili, chicken noodle soup, coney dogs and the infamous homemade cookies and buckeyes for lunch and for a few years, we served up about 25 pounds of bacon along with eggs, pancakes and Brian Tipton's casseroles for breakfast. Along with our food hospitality, we offered up creative trophies, fabulous seasonal decorations and one of the best raffles in the Labrador dog show world.

I'm probably forgetting a lot and I know each of us has memories of all these events that make us smile. Unfortunately, none of us is getting any younger and membership has trickled down to a handful over these many years. I know like most of our current members, I've held every office in the club other than treasurer, and have been show chair, and been here for every event the club has held.

The first Wednesday of the month will feel a little strange starting next year, and I'll miss getting together regularly with some of the club members that I don't otherwise see on a regular basis. It's been three decades of friendships, work, plans, successes, failures, laughs, tears and memories that will last the rest of my life.

Response from the AKC regarding dissolution of COLRC

Hello Ms Bentine:

Thank You for your email of June 20, 2023. We are sorry to hear that your club is thinking of possibly dissolving.

Please be advised that clubs are permitted at least five consecutive years of inactivity (not holding any AKC events) prior to being considered inactive on AKC records, or when the club advises of its dissolution. Our records show that the club's last event was held in May, 2023, which after five years, if no additional events were held, would not occur until August 2028 before it is considered inactive. The club could use this time to undergo a reorganization and/or conduct membership drives which may assist in reaching new members or hold sanctioned Plan OB matches to maintain the club's active status. We are also copying Guy Fisher, Manager - Club Development Department, on this email, who we hope can assist your club.

Please be advised that if the club chooses to dissolve, the Dissolution Article as contained in the club's Constitution and Bylaws must be followed, where the remaining members in good standing must vote for such dissolution. Once the club has reached this decision, please provide us with the number of remaining members that participated in the vote, the outcome and effective date of dissolution for record. We would also need the Board's final decision as to where the remainder of the club's funds are donated, if any remaining. This information will then allow us to officially close the club's record prior to the five year lapse of not holding events and which would open the area to be served by a potential new club in the future.

Also, if the club is incorporated, the club should contact the Secretary of State's office for the State requirements for dissolution. Once the club is formally dissolved, if interest for a new club develops, the same club name would not be permitted for use. It would need to be a new entity with a new club name.

We hope of this of some assistance. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Smith

Club Relations Project Coordinator

How Important is Taurine for Dogs?

When doing research on pet food, you'll inevitably come across the word taurine at some point or other and quite naturally, you'll wonder just what exactly it is. Put simply, **it's an amino acid.**



Depending on how much attention you paid in your biology lessons, you may or may not already know that amino acids are known as the building blocks of life.

Essentially, they're molecules used by the body to form the proteins necessary for good physical health — taurine is just one of them and it's present in most mammals' bodies.

What does taurine do?

So what does taurine do exactly? Basically, when there's enough taurine circulating around the body, it performs a vital behind-the-stage role, quietly aiding in the **healthy function of the nervous, digestive and immune systems.**

As such, there can be some nasty side effects when there's a deficiency — often, a shortage can lead to eye problems, cardiovascular issues and even kidney dysfunction.

Taurine isn't something humans need to worry about — it's naturally found in many common foodstuffs, such as meat, fish and dairy, as well as on the ingredient list of many energy drinks.

Our livers can even produce their own supply from other amino acids, which means that vegetarians and vegans needn't fret too much if they're bypassing the traditional sources.

Do dogs need taurine?

Similar to humans, dogs are generally better at producing a sufficient amount of taurine themselves, along with the assistance of a meat-heavy diet. That's why taurine isn't usually added to dog food.

For cats, it's a completely different state of affairs. Their bodies need a substantial amount of taurine, but they lack the same ability to create their own supply. To meet

To meet this requirement, cat food is not only packed full of meat or fish, but it's also supplemented with taurine levels set by regulatory bodies. You should be able to see this fact on the front of most packaging.

Can dogs have a taurine deficiency?

Pet nutrition is a constantly moving field of research and new findings about taurine levels in dogs are being made all the time. For example, recent research has established a link between taurine deficiency and dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) in certain dog breeds ¹.

How can I give my dog enough taurine?

If you're the parent of one of the aforementioned dog breeds, there are several ways you can be proactive in ensuring your dog doesn't suffer from a worrying dip in taurine levels.

Much like cats, a strong diet is always the first line of defense. It can be difficult to find out the

exact amount of taurine in dog foods, but you can't go wrong by ensuring that recipes contain as much high-quality meat as possible.

You can also look into supplements to boost your pet's taurine intake. These usually take the form of powders or pills, and are easy to give to your dog.

Reassuringly, your dog's body has a very high upper limit when it comes to taurine, meaning that it's **extremely unlikely that they'll suffer an overdose** — instead, their bodies should process the excess and get rid.

I think my dog might have a taurine deficiency

It's crucial you speak with your vet before making any big changes to your pet's diet. The symptoms of taurine deficiency — which may include excessive panting, collapse, blood in the urine, pain during urination, and pelvic and abdominal pain — aren't unique to the condition.

Your vet will be able to run blood tests and physical examinations to see whether your dog is suffering from a taurine deficiency or if there are other reasons behind any symptoms. Your observations will also be key to diagnosis, so keep note of the symptoms.

They'll also be up to date with the latest scientific thinking when it comes to dogs and taurine, and advise accordingly. If a taurine deficiency is detected, don't freak out — this can usually be monitored and managed over your dog's lifetime to lessen the risk of certain health conditions developing.

So how important is taurine for dogs? The answer is "quite", but in most cases, your dog's body will be able to take care of producing healthy levels of the amino acid by itself, provided the food you put in front of them is heavy on meats and other proteins.

You can give your dog the best chance of getting enough taurine by putting only the very best recipes in their bowl and doing this will only have a beneficial impact on many other aspects of their health as well — it's a win-win, really.

1. [National Library of Medicine: Taurine deficiency and dilated cardiomyopathy in golden retrievers fed commercial diets](#)

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The Dog Food Advisor
Saving Good Dogs From Bad Dog Food

Litter & Dog Listing

CH. Liberty Creek Behr Two Dare All X

UKC CH Captain Nick's Ship's Belle RN ACT 2 CGCA

Whelped May 2

2 black females available

1st vaccines; Microchipped

Puppy Page and webcam at

<http://www.captainnickslabs.com/belle/belle.html>

Contact Christine Nickerson

Christine@captainnickslabs.com

440-476-5361

"Angus" 4 month old black male current on vaccines, flea & tick and heartworm preventative.

Some basic training, microchipped

Contact: Jennifer Stotts

shannonlabradors@yahoo.com or 740-819-1607

"Blush" 1 year old yellow female current on vaccines, flea & tick and heartworm preventative

lead trained; crate

trained; Microchipped

Contact: Jennifer Stotts

shannonlabradors@yahoo.com or 740-819-1607

"Flirt" 1 year old black female current on vaccines, flea, tick and heartworm preventative; microchipped

lead trained; crate trained

Contact: Jennifer Stotts

shannonlabradors@yahoo.com or 740-819-1607

"Bon" 2 year old black male neutered;

Hips OFA good; elbows OFA clear;

eyes checked; heart checked

Current on vaccines and flea, tick and heartworm preventative

microchipped

lead trained, crate trained, house trained, basic obedience trained

Contact: Jennifer

Stotts shannonlabradors@yahoo.com or 740-819-1607

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.

OFFICERS

President.....	Sally Bell	(Term expires Dec 2023)
Vice President.....	Lori Bentine	(Term expires Dec 2023)
Treasurer.....	Linda Bednarski	(Term expires Dec 2023)
Secretary.....	Brian Tipton	(Term expires Dec 2023)

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Membership.....	Linda Bednarski
Newsletter.....	Christine Nickerson
Puppy Match.....	Linda Bednarski
Show Chair.....	Cora Fleming
Eye Clinic.....	Jennifer Stotts

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Gerhan	(Term expires Dec 2023)
Christine Kofron	(Term expires Dec 2023)
Jennifer Stotts	(Term expires Dec 2023)
Cora Fleming	(Term expires Dec 2023)