

Agile Coffee Conversation Starters
Volume 3

How do we all feel
about the way
the work works,
now and in the
future?



card submitted by:

Bob Marshall
@flowchainsensei

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How might
agile practices
change
with distributed
teams?



card submitted by:

Mark Kilby
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How often
do others
agree with you?
How often do you
agree with others?



card submitted by:

Michael J. Tardiff
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What could
be possible
if we didn't believe
that?



card submitted by:

Sue Johnston
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How are you
inviting vs. forcing
change
(and creating
resistance)?



card submitted by:

Michael Sahota
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A leader is created
when someone
chooses
to be a follower.
Do leaders need
authority?



card submitted by:

Alan Dayley
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In what
contexts/conditions
will Agile fail
and you would not
advise people
to use it?



card submitted by:

Chris Matts
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Describe attending
to the needs
of individuals
in your organization,
as well as customers.



card submitted by:

George Dinwiddie
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What actions
can be taken
to create a joyful,
inspiring,
& productive
work environment?



card submitted by:

Paul Boos
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Can others step in
as proxy PO
when there is not
adequate product
management
provided?



card submitted by:

Brett Palmer
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If we switched
to a waterfall
lifecycle, how
would we benefit?



card submitted by:

Van Wray
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When developing
software,
how many decisions
do we make
every day?



card submitted by:

Amitai Schlair
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In what ways
can Agile improve
our environmental
sustainability?



card submitted by:

Michael Kelley Harris
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What idea
needs to die
for corporations
to get the benefits
they say they want
from Agile?



card submitted by:

Lyssa Adkins
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Saying continuous
improvement is easy,
doing it is hard;
how do we inspire
relentless CI?



card submitted by:

Bob Galen
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Do you question
everything
about the way
you do your work,
even your
closest-held beliefs?



card submitted by:

Woody Zuill
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I only care about
heart-core agile.
Everything else
is just a fad.



card submitted by:

Olaf Lewitz
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In what ways
do you practice
collaboration?



card submitted by:

Bryan Beecham
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How do you coach someone who is senior to you in the organization?



card submitted by:

David Chilcott
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What problem does your software solve, or what benefit does it create, for which people?



card submitted by:

Esther Derby
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If you had a magic wand and could change something unchangeable, what would it be?



card submitted by:

Jeff Koscieljew
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What seeds are you planting for the future? When will they bloom? Who will harvest?



card submitted by:

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What are the most creative and effective Retrospective ideas and games you have utilized?



card submitted by:

Sandra Macaulay Robinson
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How do you use Lean Coffee, Open Space Technology or similar formats in the workplace?



card submitted by:

Victor Bonacci
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Is Quality Assurance an inhibitor to developing with agility?



card submitted by:

Zach Bonaker
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What do you really want? How would you act now if that thing you really want matters?



card submitted by:

Carlton Nettleton
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What is fulfillment and how does it relate to Agile?



card submitted by:

Heidi Helfand
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Agile
Transformation
Failure Patterns



card submitted by:

Jason Kline
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How do you
celebrate
successes and failures
(learning
opportunities)
with your team?



card submitted by:

Lori Shapiro
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If I could change
one thing
about the way we
deliver our product,
it would be....



card submitted by:

Ryan Ripley
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What role does
Emotional
Intelligence
play in leading and
working with teams?



card submitted by:

Curtis Gilbert
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Are you
doing Agile
or being Agile?



card submitted by:

Luke Hohmann
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In what ways
do you see
Loss Aversion
influencing decisions
in the workplace?



card submitted by:

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How can you be
an agile warrior
and not a worrier?



card submitted by:

Allison Pollard
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When was
the last time
accessibility
was part of
your MVP?



card submitted by:

Rabid Puffin
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What must happen
for the rules
comprising your
group culture
to willfully
emerge & adapt?



card submitted by:

Jon Jorgensen
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How much
documentation
is enough?



card submitted by:

Craig O'laque
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What conditions
can you create to
enable powerful,
mind/heart-changing
learning at work?



card submitted by:

Ainsley Nies
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Self is the
final frontier.
What are you doing
to improve yourself?



card submitted by:

Don Gray
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What is our
product?



card submitted by:

Ewan O'Leary
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Find an
impossible goal.
Now ask:
What would
have to change to
make that possible?



card submitted by:

Matthew Heusser
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If it can speak
to you now,
what will
your product
ask you to do
so that it can thrive?



card submitted by:

Rajee
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Should fun
be encoded into a
company value
statement?



card submitted by:

Tobias Mayer
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How do you
build a culture
of public
appreciation?
Publicly appreciate
a teammate today!



card submitted by:

Alistair Stoley
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As a scrum master/
agile coach,
are you effectively
coaching both
the chickens
& the pigs?



card submitted by:

Josh Anderson
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You want
successful teams.
How and how often
is your project
portfolio groomed?



card submitted by:

Russ Schoenke
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What would it take
to make you certain
that you're
the best person
for this role?



card submitted by:

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What is
agile coaching?
How is it different
from other forms
of coaching?



card submitted by:

Dr. Dave Cornelius
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What are your
strengths - where
you grow and
perform the best?



card submitted by:

Scott Dunn
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How do we
turn it up to 11?



card submitted by:

R. Jason Kerney
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How
do
you
know?



card submitted by:

Yves Hanoulle
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(write your own topic)



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Acknowledgements

Volume three of this series was made possible by 49 very special people who each crafted a topic specifically for this deck. Their names & twitter handles are printed on their cards so you can share your conversations with them.

I wish to thank ALL backers to the Kickstarter campaign that helped get this project off the ground and into your hands. I also ask that you join me in my gratitude to Jim Benson & Jeremy Lightsmith for giving us the fantastic Lean Coffee format. Many robust conversations have been brewed and served.

I offer hearty thanks to Ryan, Zach and Brett for their feedback & support, and I thank my wife, Hiromi, and my daughter, Sophia-Marie, for keeping the deck stocked in my favor.

Victor J Bonacci
Victor J Bonacci

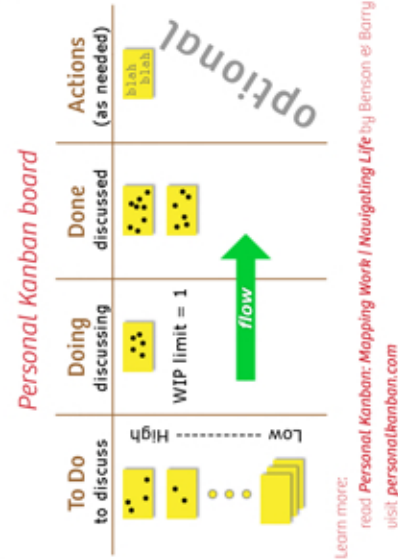
How to run a Lean Coffee

Simple rules make this tool powerful

- set up a personal kanban board
- decide what you want to discuss
 - use this deck or make your own with index cards or sticky notes
- dot vote to determine priority
 - eg. everyone gets three votes
 - *tip:* some whiteboard markers may be erased off cards in this deck if attempted promptly
- agree on a time-box (eg. 5 mins) and pull the first topic in
- at the buzzer, decide to extend the conversation or move on



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Uses of Lean Coffee

Lean Coffee is a great format for hosting meetups and impromptu gatherings. There's no requirement that Agile or Scrum must be the theme, so any community can shake things up with an alternative to the stodgy, agenda-driven events we've grown accustomed to. There's a place for everyone.

In an Agile workplace, we can use Lean Coffee as a medium for retrospectives, brainstorming and other meetings. A trained facilitator and a mature team can do just about anything with this format.

We've even created the Agile Coffee podcast using this format. The host no longer needs to create an agenda or script, and sessions can be timeboxed to fit nearly any duration.



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About Lean Coffee™

- source: www.leancoffee.org

What is Lean Coffee?

Lean Coffee is a structured, but agenda-less meeting. Participants gather, build an agenda, and begin talking. Conversations are directed and productive because the agenda for the meeting was democratically generated.

History of Lean Coffee

Lean Coffee started in Seattle in 2009. Jim Benson and Jeremy Lightsmith wanted to start a group that would discuss Lean techniques in knowledge work – but didn't want to start a whole new cumbersome organization with steering committees, speakers, and such. They wanted a group that did not rely on anything other than people showing up and wanting to learn or create.



Lean Coffee™ is a trademark of Modus Cooperandi
For more information, please visit: leancoffee.org

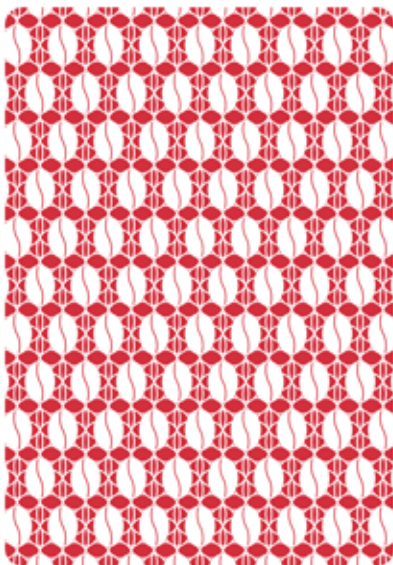
*Thank you for using
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Volume 3*

*If you enjoyed this deck,
please consider trying
our other products:*

- Agile Coffee Conversations, vol.1
 - Agile Coffee Conversations, vol.2
 - Essentials for Beginning Scrum
 - Coach's Toolkit: Laws, Theorems, Illustrations and Definitions
 - Agile Games
 - Scaling the Agile Transformation
- ... and more coming soon*



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Agile Coffee is committed to
Coaching, Conversation
and Community



www.AgileCoffee.com

**Agile Coffee™
Conversation Starters**

volume three



Contains 51 topic cards
and instructions.

One deck to evoke meaningful
conversations on topics of
Agile, Lean, Scrum and
building a better workplace.