

COWA August 2021 Survey Results

Total respondents was 40. People were allowed to choose more than one answer per question.

1. Do you think it is important to continue to have the Show-and-Tell nights quarterly where people bring their turnings to show others in the club and explain their creations?

Yes 33 82%

No 0

Less Often 7 17%

With Modification 2 5%

Total 42

Comments:

I'm totally impressed by the knowledge. Apprentice opportunities are hard to locate... this group is bursting at the seams with talent. I love it.

Max of 5 pieces to be talked about but bring as many as you want.

It stimulates members to continue to turn. I also believe it gives members ideas for future projects and interaction between members sharing methods and hopefully more interactions between members outside of meetings.

I feel that we should limit the show and tell night to three items per person. After all, we are supposed to vacate the premises no later than 9 PM.

Most definitely.

They are important, but demonstrations help members' learning curve more and may be more of a draw for new members.

Great for the experienced turners to show off their work and gives inspiration to new turners.

State what item is, wood type and finish. Limit time at mic. On break people who want to discuss at length can stand by their turnings and discuss at will.

It is great seeing all the different creations and designs that people come up with. There are so many talented people in the club!!

People like to show others what they have accomplished. However, a couple of members never follow the rules to only bring no more than 3 items to show and tell.

Bi-annual would be fine with me. Quarterly is a bit too frequent. Demos and instructional sessions interest me more.

People are proud of their work and are excited to share. Others get a chance to see what others are doing and will ask questions. Questions leads to visiting which leads to friendships.

2. Should we continue the Bring-Back portion where people who win are expected to bring something they have turned for a future bring-back prize?

Yes 16 42%

No 3 8%

Yes, but we should limit it to only one win per person for that meeting.
13 34%

Yes, but we should keep track of who wins and remind that person to bring back one of their turnings. 14 37%

Total 46

Sorry, I'm unfamiliar with this. I may be intimidated trying to produce something nice enough to offer as a gift.

Make it as good as you can. Make it a keepsake.

Yes 2 or 3 limit I think you will lose people buying the extra tickets if you go to 1 only.

May consider splitting up in different categories such as beginners, intermediate and advanced.

I suggest that a single ticket system is used for both prizes and bring-back. If you buy a ticket you are in the pool for a bring-back and/or a club prize.

Make clearly understood you bring back something you made that you are proud of and not your mistakes or broken items. Also representative of your skill level at the time, if that is done, everyone will feel good about what they gave and received.

3. The prizes for the drawing...

Are very useful as is. 21 55%

Are not very useful as is. 1 3%

Should include more or only gift certificates so you can get what you want.
9 24%

Should include gift certificates to other things such as meals at a popular restaurant. 6 16%

Other suggestions 10 26%

Total 47

No preference.

Maybe a large prize once a year. All tickets purchased during the year are eligible.

One nice purchase from club money each 3 months. More tickets would be sold and negate the price of the new nice gift.

Ask members to maybe donate turnings to use as giveaways or maybe some of the better turners would donate occasionally for auctions.

Good way to make some extra money.

No opinion.

I think the club prizes should be turning or woodworking items. One could also ask club members for donations such as used tools, once turned bowl blanks, pen blanks, used turning related books, etc.

Not sure of average profit of ticket sales, but if good, mixing in other non-turning items might be good.

Anyone who is not happy with the program should get involved and help make changes rather than complain about the program as it is.

Club members could donate a tool that they do not use or a very nice blank to be given away.

4. The Christmas party has been held at a church in Edmond for the past few years. The members have provided side dishes and dessert while the club provided the meat from a local BBQ restaurant. Should the club continue to provide the meat dish or should members bring casseroles or meat dishes?

Club to provide meat. 33 89%

Participants should provide meat dishes along with side dishes and desserts. 4 11%

Total 37

Comments:

No Preference

Might consider charging \$5.00 to cover meat.

At least we will know two of the dishes on the menu -- the meat and the one we bring.

It is a club event and the members pay dues that should be used to cover things for club members.

Club should provide meat, and a volunteer server to dole reasonable portions. It's a dinner, not an all you can eat buffet. This would help lower quantity we order and price.

5. Is the Edmond location prohibitive for you to travel? (it costs the club nothing)

Yes 4 11%

No 24 65%

Have it during the December club meeting. 5 14%

I don't attend the Christmas party 6 16%

Total 39

Comments:

Just glad to participate. Any location is great.

Find a central location that's not shared the same night.

Not sure it makes a difference but late afternoon might be good for some members instead of at night. I prefer evenings but will go with majority.

I have no problem with another location, if it would be a help to others. I think the Party should be separate from the meeting and more of a social event.

Could it be the Dec. meeting? There are always conflicts as it's a busy month. Many times weather can also be an issue.

I am usually too busy during that time of year to attend

6. Is the gift exchange a good idea? (Bring something you turned as a gift)

Yes 30 83%

No 2 6%

Suggestions: 7 19%

Total 39

I have zero equipment to date. Presently just learning. Will attend but not produce yet.

Neutral

I think some of the newer turners are intimidated by the exchange. Maybe a drawing for door prizes would be better. Possibly some of the more experienced turners could donate pieces for the drawing?

Bring 1, Get 1. Only those who want to will participate.

It's not necessary, that's not what the holiday is about but I would support it if the majority wanted to continue.

Brown bag gift exchange.

7. Are the club demonstrations hitting topics you would like to see?

Yes 27 69.23%

No 0

Sometimes 12 30.77%

Total 39

Comments:

Super.

Local demonstrators for most meetings and have a national name once or twice a year. Classes with the national name.

I know there is a cost involved but I have enjoyed the past "professional" turner demos with paid classes following. It's been a few years but the club in the past had contacted some of the tool / product manufacturers and they would send demonstrators with the agreement they could sell their products.

Best thing the club does. I think we all learn from these. I love 'em.

Detailing, Making tool handles, Vacuum chucking, Eccentric turning

We seem to do a good job of mixing the demonstrations up for both experienced and new turners.

Demos teach more than the finished product. Techniques in tool usage as well as processes are also shown. Skill levels vary between club members.

8. More big name demonstrators are offering their demo virtually where they demo from their location with cameras and we project it up on the screen. Two-way communication with the demonstrator is established so the club members can ask questions Travel cost and now Covid concerns have increased this. Are you okay with using this type of demonstration at our club meetings?

Yes 18 45%

No, keep them live. 3 7.5%

Yes, but only occasionally. 19 47.5%

Total 40

Would you be willing to do a demonstration for the club live or by video if we cannot get into the building? 4

Comments:

Martin Saban, Jimmy Clews, Tim Yoder, Michael Roper, Carl Jacobson, Mike Jackofsky, Mike Peace

We do not have the equipment for a virtual demonstration? The last time we did this, one of the club members had to use their personal cell phone to stream the demonstration.

Remote is way better than nothing. Live is great. I would love to offer our home for those who come.

I'm not a fan of virtual demos, but may be a necessity.

Jimmy Clews

Live demonstrations open the door to having hands-on classes at reduced rates compared to the demonstrator's normal rates or helps by eliminating the need to travel long distances to attend. These classes make live demos by certain instructors more important than virtual demos that aren't a lot different than watching a YouTube video.