

## **OWLS – May 22, 2025**

### **Ann Marie Kenitzer – Cuba Trip**

A group of 14 Owls gathered for a fine potluck on May 22. Roger gave the blessing, and Carol Josh was the server for the month.

Ann Marie Kenitzer was home visiting Billie and offered to do a presentation on her recent trip to Cuba. Ann Marie was part of a tour group of 19 from Amateur Traveler with tour guide Chris Christensen for an 8-day tour of Cuba in February 2025. They primarily visited 4 main cities in northern Cuba. They stayed in guest houses. They needed to take cash, approximately \$400, because you cannot spend money on government businesses including motels. They flew from Miami, Florida to Havana, Cuba. It is not that far.

Cuba gained their Spanish freedom in 1902. Then Batista was leader for 25 years. In 1959 Fidel Castro took over and reigned until 2006. In the 1990's education was free, but people only earned \$30 per month. They have many power outages so many have generators or solar power. Havana has many classic cars from the 1950's. Twenty percent of Cuba's 2 million population live in Havana. There are many coffee and tobacco farms, and much sugar cane is raised. They produce many fine cigars. They visited 4 cities, one which was French and one Spanish. You could eat all the lobster you want. There were many musicians in these towns.

After a brief meeting it was decided not to have a meeting in June.

Fireside – The Church Basement Ladies - The Last Potluck Supper. Picked Sunday, July 13, for the midday performance with 2:30 arrival; Dine 3:00pm; Show 5:00pm. Cost \$100, but you get 4 tickets for the price of 3 for multiples of 4 people. Will split the cost over all attendees.

August 6, Wednesday, Fireside Christian Concert – The Inspirations (Southern Gospel quartet). Leave at 9:30am, Arrive at 10:30 am, Dine at 11:00am, Concert 1:00pm. Cost \$50. Chicken and Fish. One ticket available.

Photos this month:

1. Ann Marie Kenitzer presents Cuba trip.  
(See 50's car, tour guide and participants on screen)
2. Making cigars
3. Classic cars