

## BIRD WALK AT CAVE CREEK REGIONAL PARK

DATE: 12/4/16 8:30—10:15 AM



**CONDITIONS:** Temperature 54 degrees F with a breeze 2-4 mph from the northwest. At the hike conclusion the temperature was 62 degrees. The weather conditions were ideal for birding under a clear sky. Water sources and food sources were limited. No pods were observed on the legume species and the mistletoe berries still remaining were desiccated to a great degree. No herbaceous or woody plants were in bloom with the exception in the area around the Nature Center, where some Chuparosa had a few blooms.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Helen Hume, Sarah Burbank, Erv Johnson, Linda and Jerry Molinelli, Joe and Debby Weidinger and guide, Joe Ford (8)

**SPECIES:** Gambel's Quail, Mourning Dove, Gila Woodpecker, Say's Phoebe, Common Raven, Verdin, Ruby Crowned Kinglet, Curve-billed Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, Phainopepla, Canyon Towhee, Black-throated Sparrow, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Cactus Wren (14)

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Although a questionable tactic and discouraged by some bird professionals, we did play some calls from birding apps in an effort to enhance our "pishing", (done by the guide, Joe Ford). This

produced results from gnatcatchers, the Say's Phoebe and a male Phainopepla, which actually buzzed the group as it came flying toward what was perhaps thought to be a potential rival invading his space.

Counts and other details are at eBird <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S32868900>

Ten people attended the program at the Nature Center entitled, "Cryptic Birds of the Night"