

CAVE CREEK REGIONAL PARK BIRDWALK 5 18 24

CONDITIONS: At 6:30 AM the temperature was 81 degrees F with little to no wind from the NE. Clouds fit the category of altocumulus, alto stratus, cirrus and cirrocumulus. At 8 AM, the clouds were the same with more cirrocumulus, temperature at 88 degrees F. Again a breeze of 0-1 mph from the NE.

ROUTE: Itinerary was the same as last month. Overton Trail to the Go John Trailhead, then looped back south to Tonalite Drive to Cave Creek Parkway, then back to the Nature Center.



PARTICIPANTS: Rachel and Elsa Boender, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Linda Molinelli, Karen Martin (photography), Pam Spinella (hospitality), and Guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford

COMMENTS: The Sonoran Desert continues to provide colorful beauty for the eyes to behold. This trip we were blessed with the purple pink blossoms from Ironwood trees, plus the waning efforts from yellow Foothills Palo Verde, and the many flowering blooms of creamy white atop the Saguaro pillars reaching for the sky. Our avian family was made up mostly of the

usual residents. Dominating the air waves were the sounds of churtiling Cactus Wrens, callings from Gambel's Quail, the weep weeps of Curve-billed Thrashers, the "who cooks for you" from White-winged Doves and the fussy chatter from the House Finches.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 25, Great Blue Heron 1(fly over), Eurasian Collared Dove 1, White-winged Dove 20, Mourning Dove 15, Greater Roadrunner 1, Gila Woodpecker 4, Gilded Flicker 1, Ash-throated Flycatcher 2, Verdin 5, Cactus Wren 8, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 1, Curve-billed Thrasher 4, Abert's Towhee 2, Brown-headed Cowbird 4, House Finch * (a lot), (16)

The ebird list can be found at Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, ebird list #S175386668 under Cave Creek Regional Park Birdwalk 5 18 24.

Seven bird lovers stayed for the presentation by Tom Locascio on "The History of Bird Evolution through Time and Birds That Became Extinct" through Geologic Time.