

Kathe Anderson Birding Seminars

At Casa de San Pedro

June 2-4, 2023: Breeding and Beyond: Eggs and Nests/Feathers and Molt

This is a full weekend program focusing on birds morning and evening, with afternoons free to relax at la Casa or explore the many natural and cultural resources of the area. Hummingbird banding may be available to enjoy on Friday, from 4-6pm.

In sync with the nesting season, on Friday, we'll take a look at bird nests and eggs, giving us some insight into why Tim Birkhead considers a bird's egg The Most Perfect Thing (the title of his fascinating book on the topic). On Saturday, with both young and adult birds moving between plumages for similar and different reasons, we'll explore feathers and molting. Choose one or both classes below, each \$35. Field trips included.

Friday, June 2:

- **5:30-6pm** – *Early Bird Bonus!* Feeder watch (meet in the dining room).
- **6-7pm** – dinner on your own or bring dinner and eat with Kathe and other participants in the dining room.
- **7pm – Eggs and Nests.** In this interactive class, we'll explore the formation and variety of eggs and nests, each topic exposing the wonders of these creations.

Saturday, June 3:

- **6-7:15am** - *Early Bird Bonus!* A slow wander around la Casa to see what's showing up at the feeders and immediate environs.
- **Right after breakfast (and we won't rush the delicious meal!)** – approximately 3-hour field trip along the San Pedro River for about 90 min. and then to Coronado National Memorial for an entirely different habitat. Let's look for nests!
- **5:15pm** – Depending on Covid concerns, optional participant dinner at a nearby restaurant.
- **7pm – Feathers and Molt.** Birds are defined by feathers, but what do you really know about them? How are they structured and how long do they last? Is there more than one kind of feather? What happens when they wear out? How does knowing more about feathers make you a better birder? In an interactive class, with up-close feathers, we'll answer all these questions and more.

Sunday, June 4:

- **6:30-7:30am** - *Early Bird Bonus!* A slow wander in the area around la Casa to look for whatever shows up.
- **Right after breakfast (and we won't rush the delicious meal!):** Approximately 3+ hour field trip to nearby Ramsey Canyon (\$5 for Nature Conservancy members, \$8 for others) and Ash Canyon (\$10). These visits

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to bird magnets for resident canyon birds should give us good opportunities for some close-up looks at birds, possibly observe changing plumages of young and adults birds. Wrap up the program at Ash Canyon, to add to the bird list and answer questions.