

Pelagic Birding Trip

Sunday, June 7, 2015

Sponsored by the Friends of the Marine Science Center



Join us for our next public exploration offered off the east coast of Florida that will explore the entire width of the Gulf Stream and the 3000' deep canyons 100 miles offshore.

"The Pastime Princess" is a 100-foot, all-aluminum boat with excellent observation areas on the upper deck, bow and stern. **Meet** for this exciting trip at 1:30 a.m. at the Dolphin View Restaurant and Marina on Riverside Drive near Canal Street in downtown New Smyrna Beach. We will depart at 2:00 a.m. Return is at 9:00 p.m.

The trip leaves from the New Smyrna side of Ponce de Leon Inlet, travels out over 100 miles, crosses the entire Gulf Stream, past the east wall of the Gulf Stream into the area known as the "Tuna Grounds." This trip holds **high** probability of encountering numerous pelagic species. We will be in the Gulf Stream at the *perfect* time – middle of spring migration – to have multiple sightings of **Black-capped Petrel**. In addition, migrants such as Cory's, Great, Sooty and Audubon's Shearwaters, all three Storm-Petrels (Leach's, Wilson's and Band-rumped), both Tropicbirds, Long-tailed Jaeger and Arctic Tern are possibilities. Previous explorations of this area at this time of year have gotten Black-caps every trip. In 2011, we had both White-tailed and Red-billed Tropicbirds. The year before, we found the largest group of Arctic Terns ever seen in Florida – 62! In addition, we had several Black-capped Petrels, all three Storm-Petrels, all three jaegers, and even three White-tailed Tropicbirds! In 2009, we had a South Polar Skua on this trip, as well as a White-tailed Tropicbird.

Potential Species include (* indicates good probability):

Black-capped Petrel* Cory's Shearwater* Great Shearwater* Sooty Shearwater Audubon's Shearwater* Manx Shearwater Wilson's Storm Petrel * Leach's Storm-Petrel * Band-rumped Storm-Petrel * Northern Gannet Brown Booby Masked Booby Red-footed Booby White-tailed Tropicbird Red-billed Tropicbird Red-necked Phalarope* Pomarine Jaeger Parasitic Jaeger Long-tailed Jaeger Arctic Tern Common Tern* Black Tern* Sooty Tern* Bridled Tern * Brown Noddy

Participants should bring: food and beverages, seasickness medicine, sunscreen and personal items. Food service will not be available on the boat.

COST: \$235/person.

Call or email NOW to reserve your space. Additional information, maps and available accommodations will be forwarded to participants. **DON'T MISS** this exceedingly rare opportunity to bird in almost unexplored state waters, with the chance at seeing some of the rarest birds in Florida!

To sign up please contact:

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Please make checks payable to:

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