newsbriefs

Audubon Everglades presents "Voyagers on the Open Sea -The Pelagic Birds of Florida," Michael Brothers, Executive Director, Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet, Florida

Tuesday, October 3, 7:00 p.m. meeting & lecture.

Michael Brothers has been studying Florida birds for the last 45 years and has been leading pelagic trips off the coast of Florida and Georgia for the last 12 years. This program will offer an introduction to the challenging pelagic birds of Florida and the attempts to unravel the dynamics of their occurrence and their relationship to the oceanic environments.

Black-capped Petrel, White-tailed Tropicbird, Bulwer's Petrel, Manx Shearwater, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel - these are names that set a birder's heart racing in Florida. The pelagic birds are one of the last frontiers of our understanding of Florida's avifauna. These birds of the open ocean come from distant shores of the Arctic, remote islands of the Caribbean and South America, the coast of Europe, northwest Africa, and even islands off Antarctica. Great travelers, they pass by our shores largely unseen. The difficulties of offshore access, which limit the numbers of observers, are compounded by the challenges of identification. Our knowledge is often limited to brief glimpses of a shearwater or storm-petrel by coastal observers. Systematic studies of Florida's oceanic birdlife are few. Come enjoy this informative program!

About Michael M. Brothers: Mr. Brothers is the Director of the Marine Science Center in Ponce Inlet, Florida, where he has worked since 2004. He is the former director of museums in Florida and Georgia and has worked as a professional interpretive naturalist for over 40 years. He is currently a member of the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee, which evaluates reports of birds recorded in the wild in Florida and is responsible for updating the scientific record of Florida's avifauna. He is also the Florida editor for the journal "North American Birds."

Also at the meeting, our expert, Clive Pinnock will speak about the October Bird of the Month, Florida Grasshopper Sparrow. Meeting and program are free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments in rooms 101 and 102 at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 Summit Blvd (near Jog Road) in West Palm Beach. We look forward to seeing you there! Photographs: Michael M. Brothers and varied Pelagic birds living in South Florida deep ocean waters AUDUBON EVERGLADES www.auduboneverglades.org If you have any questions on the Bird Walks, Field Trips@AudubonEverglades.org or call 508-296-0238

Oct 1, Sun 8am-10am Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Spanish River Park, Easy: Boardwalk or paved level surface; Medium length: 1-1.5 miles. There is an associated cost; see website for details. Leader: Luis "Beto" Matheus Oct 07, Sat 7am-12pm Audubon Everglades Bird Walk STA-1E, Easy: mainly from auto Sitting /Driving: no walking required. Advance registration required; see website for details. Leader: David Simpson

Oct 07 Sat 7:30am-11:30am New and/ or unique trip: Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Green Cay (Big Sit!), Easy: Sitting /Driving: no walking required. Familyfriendly. Handicap Accessible. Leaders: Linda McCandless/Al Pelligrinelli

Oct 08 Sun 8am-10am Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Frenchman's Forest, Moderate: Improved trail; dirt and uneven surfaces Medium length: 1-1.5 miles Leader: Chuck Weber

Oct 08 Sun 9am-3pm New and/or unique trip: Audubon Everglades Bird Walk MacArthur Beach SP (Hawk Watch), Easy: Sitting/Driving: no walking required. There is an associated cost; see website for details. Leader: David Simpson, leader; Linda Humphries, coord.

Oct 09 Mon 8am-11am Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Morikami Park (Gardens closed), Moderate: Improved trail; dirt and uneven surfaces Medium length: 1-1.5 miles Leader: Sue Young

Oct 14 Sat 7am-9am New and/or unique trips: Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Cy-







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press Creek South, Challenging: Improved or unimproved trail; uneven, rocky, and/or wet surfaces. Long: more than 1.5 miles. Family-friendly. Leader: David Witmer

Oct 22 Sun 8am-10am Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Green Cay, Easy: Boardwalk or paved level surface; Medium length: 1-1.5 miles; Family-friendly. Handicap Accessible. Leader: Valleri Brauer

Oct 29 Sat 8am-10am Audubon Everglades Bird Walk Pine Glades, Moderate: Improved trail; dirt and uneven surfaces Medium length: 1-1.5 miles Family-friendly. Leader: Chuck Weber





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Nature Photographer Robert Llewellyn SEEING TREES

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