

THE MONTCLAIR BIRD CLUB

YOUR WEEKLY BIRD 8

October 29, 2023

The pictures in this issue are by Ric Cohn

In June, I took my first overnight pelagic trip. We left Cape May at 9 pm and returned the next day at 9 pm. We sailed all night and got up at sunrise, 90 miles from shore, to look for birds and other ocean life. Birding for the first time on the open ocean made it easy to see life birds, including these two.



The tiny Wilson storm petrels impressed us with their ability to walk on water while they fed.



The much larger great shearwaters showed how shearwaters got their name—by flying just above the water, even dipping their wings in the water.

Along with albatrosses and petrels, both of these birds are tubenoses. That name refers to the tubular nostrils, which funnel faint smells, helping the birds find food on the open ocean, and serve to excrete excess salt, allowing them to survive on salt water. This adaptation has been highly successful, allowing these birds to become some of the most widespread and abundant birds on Earth.

If you would like to see your photographs highlighted here, send one or two pictures with a short paragraph to: [Sandy Sorkin & Rick Wright at MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com](mailto:MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com).



Southwest Wings

