**Connecticut Ornithological Association**

35th Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 23, 2019

Chapman Hall, Middlesex Community College

100 Training Hill Road, Middletown, CT

8:00-8:45 Registration/COA Marketplace – includes continental breakfast and Birds and Beans coffee, plus tea.

8:45-9:15 Welcome/Business Meeting. Stephen Broker, COA President, will present a brief overview of the year’s activities, followed by election of officers and board members.

9:15-10:15 **Eric Hanson – The Natural (and Unnatural) History of the Common Loon**

Since 1992, Eric Hanson has been the biologist for the Vermont Loon Conservation Project, a program of the Vermont Center of Ecostudies. In this program he will discuss the amazing recovery of loons throughout the Northeast over the past 30 years.

10:15-10:40 Presentation of COA Awards.

* Mabel Osgood Wright Award – presented annually to a person or persons in Connecticut who have made a significant contribution to the knowledge, study, and conservation of birds.
* Betty Kleiner Award – honors the memory of Betty Kleiner, whose name is synonymous with *The Connecticut Warbler,* COA’s flagship publication. The award recognizes a deserving author or artist in the field of ornithology.
* COA Mini-grants Award – awarded annually to the applicant(s) whose project most benefits Connecticut birds.
* Zepko Audubon Camp Scholarship – awarded annually to a young birding enthusiast through a written application process.

10:40-11:10 Break – COA Marketplace – time to socialize, purchase COA Raffle tickets, and check out vendors’

offerings of bird-related items.

11:15-12:15 **Jeff Spendelow – New Insights into the Secret(?) Lives of Endangered Roseate Terns**

Jeff started working on Roseate Terns in 1977 and was Director of the Falkner Island Tern Project 1987- 2003. He is a member of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife’s Roseate Tern Recovery Team. He retired in December 2018 after 35+ years to become an Emeritus Research Wildlife Biologist. Jeff’s research inspired the “Young of the Year” Documentary filmed in 2016.

12:20-1:25 Lunch at Founders’ Hall Cafeteria.

1:30-2:30 **Frank Gallo – Where, When and How to Find Birds in Connecticut**

Frank is a leading expert on finding birds in Connecticut and has led birding expeditions all over the world. Join author/naturalist Frank Gallo for an in depth look into where, when and how to find birds in Connecticut. Frank’s new book, Birding in Connecticut, is a user-friendly guide with information valuable to birders of all skill levels.

2:45-3:30 COA Raffle – the ever popular Raffle concludes our day with many prizes including avian artwork and valuable birding equipment donated by generous artists, vendors, and friends of COA. Raffle tickets will be available throughout the day.

For map and directions: <http://mxcc.edu/community/directions/> or call 860-343-5800

**Please bring this copy of the program with you to the Annual Meeting.**

**Additional copies may be accessed online at:** <http://www.ctbirding.org>