

May 21, 2016 - Rick Marsi Guided Birding Walk at Long Pond State Forest



Ten members of the Smithville Historical Society and other interested guests met at the information kiosk on 5/21/2016 at 10 a.m. Noted naturalist and columnist Rick Marsi soon began pointing out species of birds in the fields and outlet stream of Long Pond near the

location of the previous Tarbell sawmill. Rick explained the visual markings to watch for and also showed illustrations from Peterson's *Field Guide*.



Rick led the group through the foundation remains of Tarbell Farms into a field that is a part of the State Forest. Typically he first heard a bird's call and then tried to make a visual identification. Playing the targeted bird's call from his IPOD library, Rick was often able to call the curious bird within visual range where the group could observe it. During the two-hour walk, with binoculars in hand, participants identified twenty-two bird varieties.

Those who went on the outing with Rick agreed it was an enjoyable learning experience. Rick's knowledge of birds and nature inspires awe!



(Photos courtesy John Buchholz)