

TWO MORE OF THOSE "LITTLE BROWN JOBS"

TREE SPARROW



(1) **Tree Sparrow**, *Spizelloides arborea* perched in snow © Dick Harlow

Tree Sparrows are one of our winter visitors staying from November to April before flying back to the Arctic to breed.

Picture (1) and (2) are very typical of both sexes. They have white wing bars, a fairly prominent rusty-red cap and one black dot on a dull gray chest without stripes.



(2) **Tree Sparrow**, *Spizelloides arborea*, © Dick Harlow

Note that these characteristics are specific to a Tree Sparrow. We see them only in late Fall, Winter and early Spring. Could a Tree Sparrow be confused with a Chipping Sparrow? Yes! The Tree Sparrow is similar in size to a Song Sparrow and has a black spot on its striped-free chest. A Chipping Sparrow is small and migrates further south in the Fall and does **NOT** have a black spot on its chest. Be careful in the Fall because there might be some overlap between the arrival of Tree Sparrows and the migration of Chipping Sparrows.

SAVANNAH SPARROW

The **Savannah Sparrow**, *Passerculus sandwichensis*, Picture (3), on the other hand, it looks very similar to the Song Sparrow. This species is quite variable with a dull yellow to whitish eyebrow. However, this yellow eyebrow is a basic characteristic that is significantly different from other sparrows – yellow in back of the bill and just forward of the eye.

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By Dick Harlow



(3) **Savannah Sparrow**, *Passerculus sandwichensis*
notice the yellow coloration in back of the bill.
© Dick Harlow

An enlarged image in picture (4) shows this yellow coloration. Always look for this characteristic; whether faded or not and if it is there it will definitely be a Savannah.



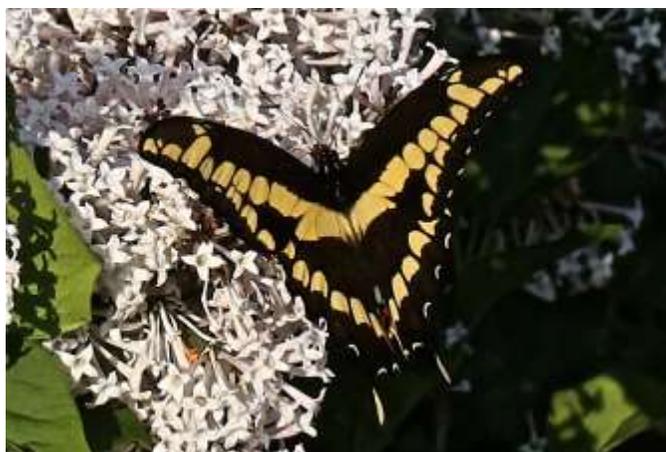
(4) **Savanna Sparrow**, *Passerculus sandwichensis*,
closer view of the yellow coloration. © Dick Harlow

Unfortunately, Savannah Sparrows are quite secretive, nesting in grassy overgrown fields and marshes. Plus, their call is soft and hard to hear especially at our age!

The Savannah Sparrow is found throughout North America, breeding from northern US to throughout Canada, and wintering in the southern part of the US including Mexico and Central America.

The above pictures were all taken here at EastView.

SPRING BUTTERFLIES



Giant Swallowtail, *Papilio cresphontes*,
probably a female, on Lilac. © Dick Harlow

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A **Giant Swallowtail** was observed on June first as were 5-6 other species on a warm lazy day, checking out whatever they could for food, territory and the males looking for females.

Butterflies that keep moving, landing on a possible nectar source intermittently are males looking for females with which to mate. Males will feed on nectar, but until they mate will do so only for very short periods.

Butterflies that linger at nectar sources or land on plant leaves as if they are checking them out are usually females. Usually, if a female has mated and has eggs to deposit she will head for her larval food plant. Once those eggs are deposited she will slowly fly and feed. If females are just meandering about then they are probably either looking for a mate or food.

Of the other 5-6 butterflies observed the only one that was blue, was the **Silvery Blue**; and the two I observed were males flying like they had a mission to accomplish. This picture, based on behavior, I believe, is a female.



Silvery Blue, *Glaucopsyche lygdamus*, on a dandelion, © Dick Harlow

Another species seen was the **Clouded Sulphur**, also I believe a female.



Clouded Sulphur, *Colias philodice*, on a Dandelion. © Dick Harlow

OBSERVATIONS

MAMMALS

White-tailed Deer

AMPHIBIANS

American Bullfrog
Leopard Frog

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Gray Tree Frog
American Toad

LEPODOPTERA

Giant Swallowtail
Black Swallowtail
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail
Silvery Blue
Cabbage White
Clouded Sulphur
Viceroy

Weather Tidbits

Month of JUNE 1-14, 2018

[All Measurements taken at solar noon \(1230 EST\).](#)

PRECIPITATION

Total Precipitation: 51.0 mm or 2.01 inches

Overcast Days: 6