





<u>2003</u>

PEREGRINE PRATTLE

Judith M. Yerkey, S'e MI Peregrine Coordinator e-mail:anatumfalcon@sbcglobal.net



TOP 5 "YUMMIES" 2003 (year-to-date): #1 Pigeon, #2Grackle, #3 Starling, #4 Mourning Dove, #5 Flicker







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RIVER ROUGE:

Mom, Kil-So-Quah and her unbanded mate, "Sweetie" produced 2 young. The little male thought he could fly too early and ended-up on a coal pile. He was Rescued, Re-habbed, and Banded by Master Falconer Dave Hogan (who "stands-by" for just such emergencies). The, now, older and wiser peregrine, Dave, fledged with no problems upon release at his natal site, National Steel (he favours his daddy in appearance).

He and his unbanded sister, "Lady" are, now, quite self-sufficient ("Lady" looks-like her mom!).

The parents have returned to their "Winter-Quarters" / "Night Roost", across the bay at Detroit Edison where they can still "keep-an-eye-on" their eyrie site.

(That particular crane, (locale of eyrie) and the area below, has been designated as "unsafe"! and due for demolition at any time, now!) The peregrine family will have to use another crane or "move" to another site! STAY TUNED!

MONROE:

(For the past two years, the pair fledged only one. Both 2001/2002 the fledgling were males.

This year, the resident couple, (Monroe and Leopold), were the proud parents of 3 fledgling, (1 boy+2 girls).

The immature female, Flitie was "grounded" <u>after</u> her first flight, and young male, Brook took a tumble from the nest.

Neither bird sustained injuries. Both were Rescued, "Re-habbed", Banded, and Returned to site by Dave Hogan.

By adding rails and sides to the emergency nest tray, Dave, made it better to accommodate the "not-yet-ready-to-fly" Flitie, and any other "grounded" young in the future.

The parents would be able to enter the box from the top to card for the young. They could also feed from between the rails. (This was similar to the New Center nest box)

Flitie fledged successfully a few days following return. Brook fledged upon release. Their sister, "Kid 3" fledged without problems. The 3 were seen with their mom and dad later by the author.







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NEW CENTER:

The adult female, Sammy F (whose nest failed last year) had better luck this year.

She nested with her unbanded mate, "Hunnie" (who showed-up last fall). The pair fledged 4 young. The Girl Scouts named the 3 girls and 1 boy at the time of banding. When she was due to make her first-flight, the young female, Brittany, made a low swooping landing to 2nd Blvd. and was rescued by the author. She recovered "onher-own" and fledged, successfully, one hour later. Gismed (her name means - Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit) made a great first-flight (2 blocks away), but, she ran out of steam upon her 2nd attempt. Gismed was, immediately, rescued by a police-man who took her to the Michigan Humane Society. She was picked-up, there, by Karen Young (Huron Valley Bird Rescue), then Rehabbed & Released at her natal site by Dave Hogan.

From the "Relaxed" posture of the parents, now, the young are self-sufficient.







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BOOK site Nesting at SBC

A unidentified banded, (black/green and purple USFW bands) falcon (adult female) nested with the unidentified banded (black/green and purple USFW bands) tiercel (adult male) in the Book Building nest box. The nest was destroyed and abandoned.

The tiercel re-nested with a (Not-so) new falcon at the SBC Building (an integral part of the Book Building territory! One day, when that "newish" falcon emerged from the nest well, the author could see her bands. Instead of black/green it was a black/red. As this was the first time this falcon faced the author, the face pattern was visible. She bore a striking resemblance to the Toledo Falcon (who had left in late March. Later that day, when this falcon sat on an area where the author could actually "read" the bands – Lo and Behold – It WAS the Toledo falcon. She, apparently, moved back and "ousted" the (black/green) female! (Hence the failed-nest!) The observer sometimes has to do a "Miss Marpel" to get the "story"!

The Toledo falcon was named Sara by David Scott, Wildlife, OHDNR in honour of a retired Information Officer, SaraJean Peters.

The pair fledged 2 (unbanded) young; "Tom" and "Sissie".







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WHITTIER:

Well, folks!

The Whittier Apartments is, now, under new ownership!

Guess what Sunrise is up to now!

For the 3rd consecutive year, she and her mate Allegro (yes – he is STILL there!) have lost their nests & re-nests!

Weather did play some part in this through the years, also, human disturbance in the building (repairs, renovations, etcetera) was also a factor.

The pair courted for a couple of days - then - "BAM", a couple of days, later, they decided to nest in a window well that had poor drainage.

A couple of weeks, later, IT RAINED <u>HARD</u>! THE NEST FAILED! Did that thwart the loving couple?

NOOOO!

After a couple more weeks, they moved around to the original nest window well! By this time, it was the end of May (as in the last 2 years).

As the first couple of weeks progressed, their "interest" in nesting grew less and less. (Gee! Whadda a big surprise – NOT!)

The pair are still a' hangin'-out, "billing-&-cooing" (yeah, right – she "directs" his every move with (continual) screeches louder than a Banshee!

Periodically, he takes-a-break at Belle Isle. Maybe he's watching for another female to "fly-away-with"!

This year, Sunrise celebrated her 12th birthday (Allegro brought her some tasty "tid-bits" for her cake). He is 4 years-old! She likes the "younger-guys", (easier to "boss"?).

WHAT WILL 2004 BRING ABOUT FOR THE SITES?

STAY TUNED!