

THE LATEST ON THE TOLEDO PEREGRINES

Matt Anderson

The Peregrine Falcons in downtown Toledo have received plenty of attention since November, 1986 in this publication, The Toledo Blade and elsewhere. What an enjoyable break the sighting of the Peregrines provide me from the tedium of my accounting duties.

Recently, there has been an extremely interesting twist in the Peregrine story. I'll briefly synopsise the events which have occurred since the first female showed up about a year and a half ago. In mid-November, 1986 during a miserable sleet storm, I first sighted an immature-plumaged female streaking past my 14th-floor office. A month later, this female provided Toledo with its first-ever Christmas Count record of a Peregrine Falcon.

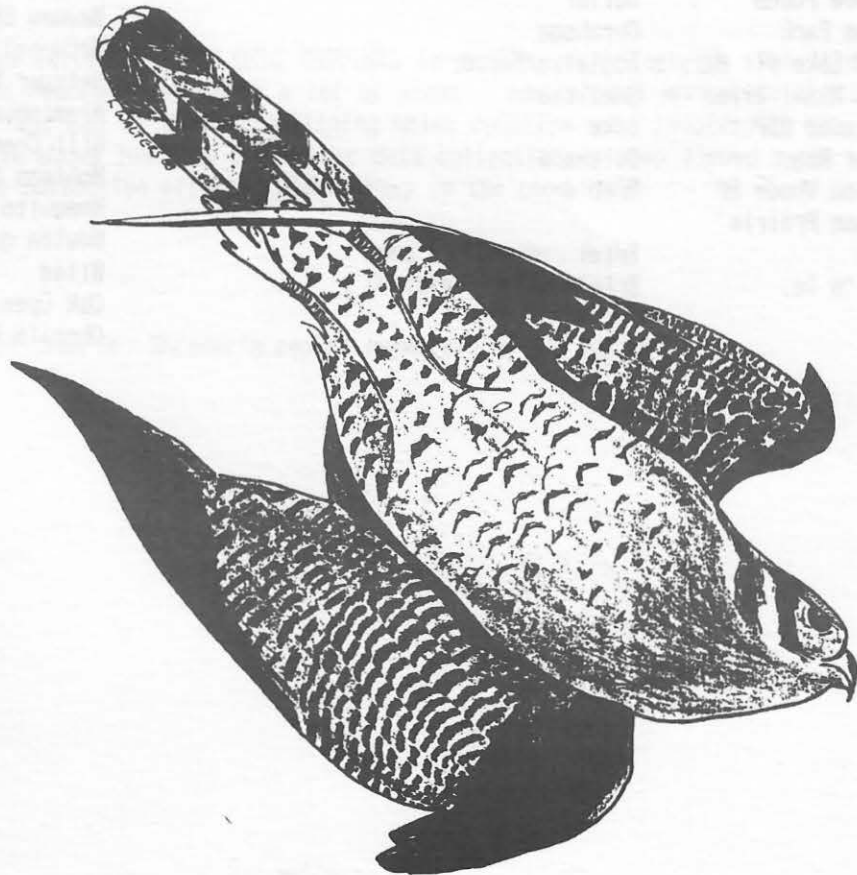
In March 1987, quite surprisingly, the female was joined by a gorgeous slate-blue adult male. Immediately, the pair showed interest in each other and treated downtowners to spectacular aerial displays. No breeding occurred in 1987, but certainly everyone was hopeful that 1988 would be the year that Ohio would see its first nesting Peregrines.

Hopes seemed to be completely dashed when Dr. Elliot Tramer found the female dead on a downtown street on January 12, 1988. How the female died will never be known. It was, however, heartening to see that the male continued patrolling the downtown skies.

And then the unusual twist - on February 4, 1988, less than a month after the Peregrine was found dead, another female had amazingly appeared downtown. Once again both falcons have demonstrated great interest in each other. As a result, there is great optimism that Toledo will see breeding Peregrine Falcons.

From where are these Peregrines coming, particularly the female which recently appeared? Peregrines are not supposed to be early February migrants in this area. Apparently some research on the breeding grounds has indicated that females will occasionally inhabit the fringes of a pairs' territory and move in when the opportunity presents itself. It seems unlikely that that was the scenario here, but it is intriguing how the second female showed up so quickly.

I'll keep you updated.



LOCATION CROSS REFERENCE

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>
Avon Lake	Lorain	Oregon	Lucas
Bayshore	Lucas	Ottawa NWR	Ottawa/Lucas
Bresler Res.	Allen	Oxbow	Hamilton
Buck Creek SP	Clark	Salem	Columbiana
Caesar's Creek	Montgomery	Sandusky	Erie
Canfield	Mahoning	Sandusky Bay	Erie/Ottawa/Sandusky
Castalia	Erie	Shaker Lakes	Cuyahoga
Cedar Point NWR	Lucas	Sims Park	Cuyahoga
Centerville	Montgomery	South Bass Is.	Ottawa
CJ Brown Res.	Clark	Spring Valley SWA	Greene
Clark Lake	Clark	Springville Marsh	Seneca
Crane Creek SP	Lucas	Turtle Creek	Ottawa
Cuyahoga Valley NRA	Cuyahoga/Summit	Wellington Res.	Lorain
East Fork SP	Clermont	Winton Woods	Hamilton
East Harbor SP	Erie	Woodlawn Cemetery	Lucas
Eastlake	Lake	Zanesville	Muskingum
East Liverpool	Columbiana	Kent	Portage
Edgewater Park	Cuyahoga	Killdeer Plains	Wyandot
Englewood Reserve	Montgomery	Lake Isaac	Cuyahoga
Fairport Harbor	Lake	Lake Rockwell	Portage
Findlay Res.	Hancock	Lunken Airport	Hamilton
Findley SP	Lorain	Magee Marsh	Ottawa
Firestone Metropark	Summit	Marietta	Washington
Germantown Reserve	Montgomery	Maumee Bay SP	Lucas
Glimore Ponds	Butler	Maumee River Rapids	Lucas/Wood
Gordon Park	Cuyahoga	Maumee State Forest	Fulton/Henry/Lucas
Grand Lake St. Mary's	Auglaize/Mercer	McConnellsville	Morgan
Great Miami River	Hamilton	Metzger Marsh	Lucas
Headlands SBP	Lake	Miamisburg	Montgomery
Hoover Res.	Delaware	Mill Creek Pk.	Mahoning
Hueston Woods SP	Preble	Mohican SF	Ashland
Huffman Prairie		Mosquito Creek	Trumbull
Huron	Erie	Newton gravel pits	Hamilton
Kelly's Is.	Erie	Niles	Mahoning
		Oak Openings Park	Lucas
		Oberlin Res.	Lorain