

Peregrine Watch Highlights

July 11: Watched the long, descending flight of the eldest eyas Dot (named by two, veteran volunteers) to the north from below the nest box on Bldg. No. 5 to the top of the Gardner Women & Newborn Center (WC).

July 13/14: Captured Dot from behind a parapet on the WC and released her atop Bldg. No. 5. Dot did a gymnastic flip from the nest box roof to the porch of the nest box. We had returned to the beginning with two eyases at the nest box.

July 18, All Hell Broke Loose: After dark, Susie, the younger (by 2-4 days) of the two, female eyases dropped from the east end of a wall below the nest box, glanced off the solid glass east face of Bldg. No. 5 to parts unknown. Dot took flight and glanced off a north-facing glass wall above a cafeteria patio. Susie was captured by shaking a branch in a small tree and then transported to the designated rehabilitator

July 19: Dot was purposefully scared from a wall at the north end of the WC and proceeded to go on multi-flights to the northwest, north, northeast, and east faces of Bldg. No. 5 and WC. This route included a jet-propelled blast between parked cars and avoiding by inches a volunteer with the capture towel.

July 20/21: Dot was luckily captured just before the 11:00 pm shift change from a low metal sign and transported to a retired rehabilitator for immediate treatment. The following day she was transported to a permitted and licensed rehabilitator.

THANK YOU...

My sincerest thanks to the following (with "boots on the ground" and often capture towel in hand)...2020 Murray IMC Peregrine Falcon Watchpost/Rescue Team members [including Gary Bell, Duane Carlile, Sharen Carlile, Jack Clark, Mary Lou Emerson, Joel Holtrop, Ann Lindsay, Robyn MacDuff, Wayne MacDuff, Charlotte Moroz, Kathy Moroz, Gem Morris, Nancy Nelson, Wayne Peay, Kandy Richards, Liz Schubert, Jon Seegmiller, Steve Smith, Valerie Stewart, JoAnn Stoddard, Janice Sugiyama, Bob Walters, Karol Walters, Tom Walters, Mollie Welch (+ Stanley and his sister Cathy), as well as Joan for whom, in all the confusion, I failed to note last name.

Thanks to Mark Olsen, IMC Facility Manager III, Plant Operations, for his beyond the call of duty efforts to locate, access, and release the young flight students. He exemplified the true spirit of cooperation throughout the HellWeek(s) endeavor!

Thanks to Heather Dove, Great Salt Lake Audubon President, for the e-mail "blasts" alerting and inviting Audubon members to participate in the effort and the use of invaluable walkie talkies.

Thanks to Robyn MacDuff, Raptor Inventory Nest Survey Leader/Coordinator, for enlisting and coordinating RINS' volunteer workers.

Thanks to Patti Richards, Great Basin Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Leader, for the treatment and care afforded the young-of-the-year in their hour of need and beyond to the time of their release to the wild. And, thanks to JoAnn Stoddard, retired raptor rehabilitator, who has never, ever, failed to “step up to the plate”.

And, lastly, hat tips to Russ Norvell, Wildlife Coordinator, and Terri Pope, Sensitive Species Biologist, (former Utah Division of Wildlife Resources’ co-workers) for their support and advice relative to formation of the 2020 IMC-Murray Peregrine Falcon Watchpost/Rescue Team cooperative agreement.