October Meeting  DATE: October 30th
DAY: Tuesday
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: Twenty-eighth Street Church of
       the Brethren / Union Ave. & 28th St.
       Altoona, Pa.

PROGRAM: "Wild America"

Bill Rosevear, our speaker for this October meeting, will present a new Audubon film - "Wild America" - to our group along with a commentary on the issues touched upon in the production. The film shows the need for wild areas in the U.S. Wild area as used in it refers to any area where plants and animals exist. A city's survival relating to these areas is depicted. Bill says that it's a film well done and thought provoking.

Refresments will be served. For newcomers: our group meets the last Tuesday of each month September through June except for December when we have our annual Christmas bird count and covered dish supper. (Last December 15th, a Sunday, on your calendar for that.) Historians are always in the basement social hall of the church, entrance and parking being at the back. The social hall is very adequate - a clean, welllighted place, as Hemingway might say. Anyone is welcome to attend any JVAS meeting or activity, member or not. The gatherings are informal and informative. Please consider attending.

Field Trip To The Pulpit  On Saturday, October 13th eleven members and friends traveled down to the Pulpit at the top of the Tuscarora Mountain just off Rt. 30. It was a day to test the hardy for a strong wind blew at us making it all the colder. Long underwear was the thing to have on - even two pairs would have not been overdressing! In the faces of these hostile elements 142 birds of prey were sighted from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Spotters recorded nine different hawks, eagles and vultures: red-tails, red-shouldered, kestral, merlin (moved in - shot by with the kestrel, cooper, sharp-shes (lots of them), ospreys and a peregrine (not seen by any of our party at the point of positive identity). Also - a turkey-vulture migration was in motion. Ravens were seen and plenty of blue jays. Some local, non-migrating red-tailed hawks were seen quite close-up. Some-of-the birds pass over fast and very high; the peregrine, for example was a doubtful call in some people's minds. All in all, a worthwhile trip - even though the teams counting on a regular basis have had 700 days thus far this fall. A sunny, breezy week-end made like the Saturday/Sunday of October 20th and 21st might be a lot better. This sight is close - 65 miles or so south of us. It is a place that our group will definitely return to. Anyone wanting directions to the Pulpit should call Al Burd at 943-0565. Those making the trip included: Bill Rosevear, John Orr, Fran Burgoyn, Joe Benzavenga, Wilson and Ted Kreitz and two of their neighbors, Truth George, Al Burd, and Diane Casacia. An extra added attraction that day was the hang glider launch off of the stone walls of the pulpit. We saw one hang glider make a precarious takeoff in high winds. He went high and far up and down the ridge for over an hour and was the only flyer to attempt it while we were there. It's a most interesting sight to behold and at one moment it appeared that a red-tailed hawk dipped into him high up and away from our vantage point.

BIRD SEED PICK-UP — OCTOBER 27th

seeds at Imler's Agway on 6th Ave., out in the vials. Members will be there to...
for an hour or two, call John Orr at 943-5629. Please pick up your seed orders within the hours of 9:00 to 3:00. The seed sale might be termed a slight success. To those on the Seed Sale Committee, the service offered is most important - the money made in profits comes second. Bill Rosevar will soon have a tally on exact monies but at this point it looks like $200 - $300 or so net profits. The November issue of the newsletter will give a fuller account.

**Bird Banding Nets**

Bill Rosevar, our president, gave an informative talk on banding birds at the September Kivas Farm meeting. Our immediate goal is to attain certification necessary for placing our bands on birds in local studies. Also, with the new mesh nets JVAS can satisfy a need right away in the cases where a bird needs to be removed from a store or other building. A particular type of bird might need help in a similar way. For example, at this moment we are watching a case where a light blue parakeet is frequenting a feeder in the Pinemcark area. It might be necessary to make a capture for this bird's benefit, his survival, over the winter. When problems of trapped or endangered birds arise, call us.

**Bird Feeders For Sale**

On October 27th at 1am's a good selection of feeders will be on hand for inspection and purchase. We have the Droll Yankee regular and thistle feeders as well as suet, peanut butter, and glass sided station type devices. They may be bought there.

**JVAS Constitution Passed**

For some time, at least, our organization will have a very good constitution to follow, as most members are aware now that 150+ have been distributed. The document was long overdue in a revised form, and thanks to Bill Rosevar it is now a reality. Anyone needing a copy should write to the Unicatcher. Thanks are due to all members who took time to consider the changes proposed and vote on the revision. It took two-thirds of the entire membership to ratify the new constitution but we finally got that number. (The new document has avoided that troublesome amending problem.)

"A bit of history on the "Unicatcher" (The following is extracted from a short piece written by Lydon H. Goldsmith and found in *Naturally* (Oct. 1979), the newsletter of the Conococheague Audubon Society (Cheltenham, PA))

"Pulprogams" especially will be interested in the following letter:

"On our return from Greece a little more than a month ago (Jan 1979), my wife and I took two house guests from Kinoso, Athens, to visit the "Pul Progams". While there we met a man and a woman who introduced themselves as "Mr. & Mrs. Jim Johnson, of Greensboro, N.C. It was her first visit to the area, but for Mr. Johnson it was a return after many years.

"Jim Johnson said that he had contacted Pulprogams during World War II and had been advised by his physician to recuperate in a cooler climate and at a higher elevation. Eventually he got a job with Sid Jackie at the old Tucklewood Condo in a house.

"While there, Johnson met Bob Hill, of Ferndale, and Don Carbaugh, of McConkey's Run, and the three of them decided to build the lookout and observation post we now know as "the Pul Progams". They took all the rocks, etc., cut and cut with their 39-inch axes, and finally in 1949 they were finished. It was in 1945 and he did not return after that summer, and lost contact with Bill and Carbaugh."