



## Executive Director Report

April 14, 2018 Jim Thorpe, PA

- **Upcoming Events for KTA Staff:**

April 21 – Earth Day

May 12 – Art & Wine Walk

June 16 – Duncannon AT Day

June 21 – Jubilee Day

- **Sunday Hunting** – A new group, the Sunday Hunting Working Group has recently been organized to make another push for an expansion of Sunday hunting opportunities in PA. Brynn and I spent a short time at the Capitol last month and the feedback we received was that there is no imminent concern. The PA Farm Bureau's big advocacy day is coming up and their members will be focusing on this issue in meetings with legislators. We plan on waiting until June to hit all members with another round of correspondence from KTA.
- **DCNR State Forester** – Dan Devlin retired at the end of March. There will be a three step interview process to replace him. First, the 9-10 candidates will be interviewed by executive staff to reduce the number of candidates. Next, on May 1<sup>st</sup>, candidates will do oral presentations. KTA has been asked to participate in this process. Finally, Cindy Dunn and John Norbeck will make the final selection.
- **Mountain Bikes on the Loyalsock Trail** – KTA shared the Alpine Club of Williamsport's letter in our April newsletter. We also shared the letter and article with IMBA but did not receive any response back from them.

- **Trail Challenge Numbers** – The numbers of registrants are down compared to last year. We did not do a mailing to running shoe stores as we had done in the past. When we saw the numbers were lagging we called approximately 60 stores to ask if they wanted flyers. Almost all responded affirmatively so we mailed hundreds of flyers to those stores. We also sent 500 flyers to the Hyner Challenge, Iron Master and Rachel Carson Trail Challenge. This should allow the numbers to catch up with past events.
- **Fall 2018** – KTA's Fall Hiking Weekend will be held in Williamsport with many of the scheduled hikes planned for the Loyalsock Trail and Old Loggers Path. We are considering adding a slackpack to the offerings for those folks who want to complete the trail but we would need a leader. Any suggestions?
- **Spring 2018** – While we have a good turnout for the weekend (over 100 people), staff has had such a bad experience working with an employee at the Inn that we've decided in the near term we will not be returning.
- **Van** – KTA will be renting a 15 passenger van for our Philadelphia Program. We also rent a vehicle for the trail challenge. I am considering getting rid of my Suburban and getting a smaller vehicle now that I'm not towing a boat or taking my kids on camping vacations. So, we'd like the Board to consider allowing us to pursue a donated van. Researching the internet shows that there are a number of companies and organizations that help charities acquire vehicles.
- **Personnel** – Brynn has been with KTA over a year now and I've been here almost three years. I wanted to make this point because as we get more efficient, I believe you can see small changes in how we operate. For example, many of our current flyers have been redesigned by Brynn and have a fresh new look. Further, we have the locations for the spring and fall hiking weekends identified or reserved.