

December 2018

Dear fellow Sojourners,

Next year will be the 25th Delaware River Sojourn! As far as we know, we are the longest-running river Sojourn in the United States. This is a great accomplishment. To get this far, it has taken a lot of volunteers, a lot of careful planning, and a lot of hard work. Of course, it also takes money. In recent years, we have been successful at obtaining grants from a number of different sources. These grants have defrayed some of our costs, enabled us to keep participant fees relatively stable, and made it possible to provide youth scholarships. Each year, the Sojourn's Steering Committee carefully reviews and discusses the income, expenses, and current financial position of the Sojourn and takes appropriate action to ensure that the Sojourn will continue on. And it will. However, right now, we are at our lowest fund balance since 2009, even though--just a few years ago-- we enjoyed our highest fund balance ever. Rising costs are always chasing us, particularly costs for food, livery, and transportation. Participant fees do not cover the full costs of running the Sojourn. Without a fund raising chair, we also did not hold fund raising dinners for two years in a row. Last year, we incurred some extra camping/lodging expenses, and we've also spent more on programming and special activities. Looking ahead to next summer, we are facing some uncertainties regarding our food and transportation vendors, which may result in higher costs in these categories. We also want to make our 25th Sojourn very special, but without cutting into our limited financial reserves.

We are therefore asking for donations to the Sojourn at this time. Our fund-raising goal from now until the 2019 Sojourn is \$10,000, so every donation counts. Many of you have given generously in the past, and we are hopeful that that will continue. All donations are tax-deductible, as we are nonprofit and tax-exempt. You can donate by check or by credit card. If you wish to donate by check, please make your check payable to Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition, or simply UDPC, and write "Sojourn 2019" in the memo area of the check. Please mail your check to: Delaware River Sojourn, c/o UDPC, 101 Indian Lookout Road, Lackawaxen, NY 18435. If you wish to donate by credit card, please go to our website, which is <https://delawareriversojourn.com>. Then go to our Home page. At the bottom of the Home page, under "quick links", click on "make a donation" and it will take you to the Sojourn Giving Page. Or, simply click [here](#) to go directly to the Giving Page. In the lower left corner of the Sojourn Giving Page, click on the yellow "Donate" button and proceed from there. If your employer matches your charitable contributions, please remember to apply for the employer match, as it doubles your contribution to the Sojourn. Thank you for your support. See you on the river!

Sincerely,

Dan Okrent

for the Delaware River Sojourn Steering Committee