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## TRANSIT TIDBITS

Issue 127

August 2022

### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2022

Two things you are in total control of in your life are your attitude and your effort

**Dakota Transit Association**  
Jacque Senger, Executive Director

Our September 2022 Conference in Aberdeen, SD is just about complete. We have a lot of great topics and speakers.

Please remember that the deadline for the DTA Registration Forms is August 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you are going to be late, please call or email me so I know what to expect. Also remember that the release date for the sleeping rooms is also August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Your Board of Directors are anxious to see you all in Aberdeen.

### TRAINING UPDATE

Contact Information

Linda Freeman 701-848-6480

e-mail: [lindaafreeman1@gmail.com](mailto:lindaafreeman1@gmail.com)

We have a set of classes to be held in Dickinson on October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Classes will be held as follows:

- October 6—PASS 8am to 2pm, (Day 1)
- October 6—Defensive Driving 2pm to 5pm
- October 7—PASS (Day 2) 8am to 4pm
- October 7—PASS Recertification 8am to 4pm

TO REGISTER: Please email Linda Freeman at above email address with names of those

attending and which classes each will be attending. Deadline for registration will be September 25, 2022.

Watertown has also expressed an interest in holding a couple of sets of classes, but no dates have been set as yet.

If any of you would like to host a class, please contact me. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the conference in September.

Keep on doing what you all do so well!



**Devils Lake Transit**  
**Devils Lake, ND**

Kirby Stittsworth, Transit Director

Greetings--- My name is Kirby Stittsworth. I am the new Transit Director in Devils Lake. I have been in this position about a month now and learning more and more as the days go by. I was a part time driver for about 6 months before accepting the Transit Director position when it became available.

My previous work history includes about 14 years in the HR/Payroll/Benefits Department for a property management company.

Before that, I sold insurance and investments for Thrivent Financial for 11 yrs.

In my spare time, I enjoy hunting, fishing, camping, golfing, and pretty much anything outdoors.

Looking forward to this new adventure in life!

**There Comes a Time**

Cheryl Jongerius, Transit Director  
Dicky County Transportation  
Ellendale, ND

When we get to August 31, on that day I will have completed 40 years as Director of the Dickey County Senior Citizens/Dickey County Transportation and that is the day I am going to retire. After college, I worked fulltime in Minnesota for 5 years before I came here, so 45 years of fulltime work is enough for me! I don't have "grand" retirement plans like a trip around the world or anything.

When people ask me what my plans are, I just say "to start off with, I am NOT going to go to work every day." A retiree I have known for a long time told me a week or so ago that I should think of every retirement day like it is a Saturday and I can do whatever I want! I like that kind of thinking!

For those of you that have known me a long time, this little story I am going to share will NOT surprise you. My Mom would bring up this incident every once in a while – everyone in my family has heard it many times. When I was not quite 2 years old, I was at the Doctor's office and the Nurse gave me a shot. My Mom said I did NOT cry but looked the Nurse straight in the eye and said "You naughty girl!" Apparently, speaking my mind was hard wired in me from the get-go. What does this have to do with transit?

I want to encourage all of you to use the word "WHY" at lot more often. **We need to be willing to speak up!** I can think of 5 different instances without

thinking very hard when transit providers in North Dakota asked that “WHY” question to our state staff which then produced discussion which then produced changes that benefited transit providers. I think you need to remember to ask “WHY” of yourself in your agency also. Have you been doing something internally for a long time and you just keep doing it because – well, do you know “WHY”? Is every single line and question on forms your staff do – really necessary? “WHY?” Do they know “WHY?”

We can grumble among ourselves and I have certainly done my share of that. However, maybe it would be a lot more productive if we speak up and ask the people that can make some changes the magic word “WHY?”

Tidbit Articles:

Please contact me with articles for your agency.

Recycle:

Please share your Transit Tidbit with your staff and any interested persons.

Address:

Directors, please check with your bookkeepers as well as the rest of your staff to assure they have the correct DTA Mailing Address.

Thanks to all!



Jacquie Senger, Executive Director, DTA

[www.dakotatransit.org](http://www.dakotatransit.org)

[jacquelinesenger@gondtc.com](mailto:jacquelinesenger@gondtc.com)

cell number 701-740-8894