



# BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly Words of Wisdom to Keep Your Bucket Filled

Volume 5, Issue 9

Week of May 1, 2011

## Making a Difference

April 2011 ■ Presentations

Sessions: 20 ■ Attendance: 4,410

- Archer Street School, Freeport, NY
- Bright Horizons Educator Conference, Lansdale, PA
- Congress Elementary, Sturgis, MI
- Jerolene Elementary, Sturgis, MI
- Lake Elementary, Millbury, OH
- Lynch Elementary, Lapeer, MI
- Parkway Elementary, East Meadow, NY
- Sandusky Central Catholic School, Sandusky, OH
- St. John's Academy, Jamestown, ND
- Wall Elementary, Sturgis, MI
- Wenzel Elementary, Sturgis, MI

Total Bucketfilling sessions taught through April 30, 2011

■ Sessions: 2,000

■ Attendance: 298,950

## Bucket Chuckles

### Recognition

By Barbara Burrow



"I don't want to hear another word!"  
I hear my daughter scold.

"Dear me," I think, "She's awfully strict  
For a playful three-year-old!"

She rolls her big eyes heavenward  
And sighs with great disdain,  
"What am I going to do with you?"  
Her dolls hear her complain.

"Sit down!" "Be still!" "Hold out your hands!"  
"Do you have to walk so slow?"  
"Pick up your toys!" "Go brush your teeth!"  
"Eat all your carrots!" "Blow!"

I start to tell her how gentle  
A mother ought to be  
When blushing I realize  
She's imitating me!

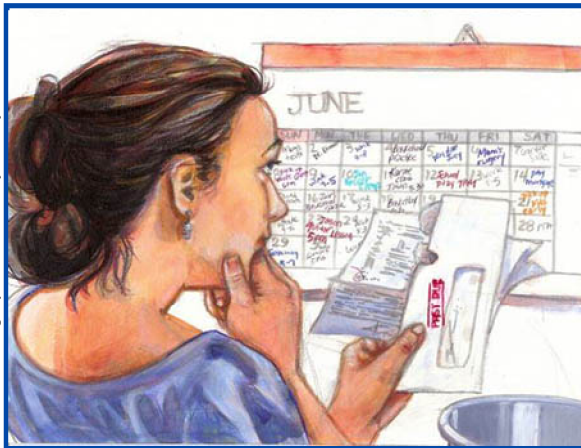
## What Mothers Should Know

by Glenny Merillat, Newsletter Editor

Sunday, May 8, is Mother's Day.

The role of motherhood in the 21st century continues to be stressful. Today's moms are living their lives at a pace that their grandmothers and even their mothers would find unimaginable. Each new responsibility, challenge, and obligation tests a mother's ability to lovingly fill buckets.

Growing Up illustration by Penny Weber



Let's look at an imaginary Mom. We'll call her Janet. Janet is an active, busy mother of two teens John, 13, Olivia, 15, and Bobby, an inquisitive eight-year-old.

Janet works four days a week and her husband Dave is also employed, but he will soon learn that his employer is closing his doors ending Dave's 15-year career in a job he loved.

In a few days Janet will learn that what she suspected is true; her Mom is in the early stages of Alzheimers.

Illness and financial worries can challenge anyone's ability to fill buckets. The children will have to know that their grandmother is going to change over time and she will slowly forget who they are.

If Dave becomes one of the many unemployed, there will be necessary sacrifices that the children will find difficult to understand.

Dave will need support and encouragement, the children will need to understand their roles in what's happening to their family, and Janet will need, now more than ever, to remember to keep her own bucket full so that she can fill her family's buckets.

Sadly, it didn't take much to imagine this scenario; it's being played out in homes across the nation.

As a bucketfilling Mom, Janet will look for ways to fill her children's buckets. She will set aside time when she and Dave can talk with their children about what's happening and discuss ways they can all keep one another's buckets full. And what is so important here—Janet will not neglect her own bucket. She knows that she is going to do whatever it takes to keep it as full as possible.

It won't be easy, but challenges can bring a family together or pull it apart and bucket filling has a great track record for bringing people together — sometimes even closer than they were before.

Have a happy bucketfilling Mother's Day.

## Congratulations Danielle

**Danielle Schultz**, of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania is our bucket filler of the week. You have a book coming your way. Every bucket filler is a winner. Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled by subscribing to our free e-newsletter at [www.bucketfillers101.com](http://www.bucketfillers101.com)

## Words of Wisdom

"Being a full-time mother is one of the highest salaried jobs... since the payment is pure love."—*Mildred B. Vermont*