

BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

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Making a Difference

Buckets are good for business

What follows is an excerpt from the web blog of Norm Werner, a Realtor in Milford, Michigan:

Recently we instituted a program in the office based upon the children's book – "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud.



The theory holds that as you fill someone else's bucket, yours fills too - you feel good by making others feel good.

The same theory applies to how you express your outlook on things in general – the world around you. If you are always negative about everything, that takes from the buckets of others and from your own bucket.

So, saying negative things about your work or the real estate market, for instance, might be cause for buckets to be emptied – both your own and those of the people around you. Filling a home seller's bucket in the current market can be a big challenge, but not even trying can empty his/her bucket even faster.

We have little buckets around the office with little slips in them that one can fill out to record whenever someone does something nice or says something nice to a co-worker (fills someone's else's bucket).

It's not unusual to overhear someone saying "Thanks, you filled my bucket" to a co-worker, or "Get your hand out of my bucket!" if the co-worker has done/said something negative.

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Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud, The Bucket Lady

Filled: 2 buckets and a tire

Not too long ago, one of our team members, Karen Wells, who lives on the West Coast, had a bucket filling experience that involved a flat tire and a first-responder:

On Wednesday morning, I stopped for coffee and when I came out of Starbuck's I discovered that my one of my rear tires was completely flat. I called AAA and, although it was a chilly morning, waited outside my car to protect the parking space next to mine so the tow-truck driver had enough room to maneuver.

While waiting, I called my secretary and told her that I would be late (for the first day of class!) and asked her to give my students a "heads up." Most of the folks, who saw my situation, were supportive (except for a few who, despite my plight, wanted the prime parking spot next to the one my car occupied).

In fact, there were four guys who offered to help change the tire. Then a young man came out of the store next door and offered to wait with me until the truck came. He was a firefighter (a captain) on his way home with a juice drink for his wife.

He pulled his car over to fill the space that I was guarding, and because AAA was running late, he tried to fix the tire for me. However, he couldn't loosen the spare's plastic screw; neither could the AAA guy when he first arrived.

They finally got the screw out and the tire changed. During all of this, the fireman talked about his kids—three under the age of four years. He told me how he and his wife have no TV and love to read to their kids and take them places.

I said that I had a gift for him and gave him "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?", asking him to read it first. He loved the illustrations and the story line. He said he was going home to read the book to his kids that day.

I told him that he was my Bucket Filler that day and thanked him profusely.

Editor's note: Karen teaches in the Child Development Program at Modesto Junior College in California and plans to ask the Captain to visit her college to discuss bucketfilling.

This week's winners

Congratulations!



Erica Horton, a mother from Garden City, Michigan is our Bucket Filler of the Week. Congratulations, Erica! You have a book coming your way.

Every bucket filler is a winner! Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled every week by signing on for our newsletter at

www.bucketfillers101.com.

Quote of the Week

"Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."

-- Abraham Lincoln

