

BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

Week of JANUARY 18, 2009 • Volume 3, Issue 2

Making a Difference

December 2008

PRESENTATION UPDATE

Sessions: **51**

Attendance: **8,880**

- Baker Elementary, Milford, MI
- Beck Centennial Elementary, Macomb, MI
- Bennett Elementary, Jackson, MI
- Borland Elementary, Imlay City, MI
- Broadmoor Elementary, Hobbs, NM
- Brookfield Academy, Waterford, MI
- Duncan Elementary, Shelby Twp., MI
- East Hills Elementary, Roslyn, NY
- Ellis Elementary, Belding, MI
- Eton Academy, Birmingham, MI
- Geer Park Elementary, Dearborn, MI
- Leadership Livingston, Howell, MI
- Montague Elementary, Mt. Morris, MI
- Moore Elementary, Mt. Morris, MI
- North Elementary, Brentwood, NY
- Oakman Elementary, Dearborn, MI
- Perry Child Development Center, Ypsilanti, MI
- Pharr Elementary, Snellville, GA
- Pinehurst Elementary, Mt. Morris, MI

Total through December 2008

1,032 Sessions

128,280 Attendance

BUCKET CHUCKLES



Sign on back of an Amish carriage

**Energy efficient vehicle.
Runs on grass and oats.
CAUTION: Avoid exhaust!**

BUCKET FILLERS, INC.

PO Box 255

BRIGHTON, MI 48116

PHONE: 810.229.5468

FAX: 810.588.6782

WWW.BUCKETFILLERS101.COM

Designed & edited by Glenn Merillat

*Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud,
The Bucket Lady*

A teacher's legacy

There are many uplifting stories and photos flying around the internet. One such e-mail caught my attention because it contained a poignant bucketfilling message.

You may be familiar with the story of a teacher who asked her students to list the names of their classmates on two sheets of paper, leaving a space between each name. She then asked them to think of the nicest thing about each boy and girl and write their thoughts under each name. When they were finished, they handed her their papers and went home for the weekend.

Over the next two days, the teacher wrote the name of each student on a separate sheet of paper, then listed what each student had written about their classmate.

On Monday she gave each student his or her two-page list. Soon the entire class was smiling. "Really?" she heard whispered and "I never knew that I meant anything to anyone!" and, "I didn't know others liked me so much."

No one ever mentioned those papers in class again and she never knew if they discussed them after class or with their parents, but it didn't matter. The exercise had accomplished its purpose. The students were happy with themselves and one another. That group of students moved on, their buckets filled.

Sadly, one of these students was later killed in Vietnam. The teacher attended his funeral, in a church filled with his friends, many from her class.

As she paid her respects, one of the military pallbearers approached her and asked, "Were you Mark's math teacher?" She nodded. "Mark talked a lot about you," he said.

The funeral over, many of Mark's former classmates gathered for a luncheon where Mark's mother and father were obviously waiting to speak with his teacher. Taking a wallet from his pocket, Mark's father said, "Mark had this with him when he was killed. We thought you might recognize it. Opening the billfold, he carefully removed two worn pieces of notebook paper that had obviously been taped, folded and refolded many times. The teacher recognized the pages as those on which she had written all the good his classmates had said about Mark.

"Thank you so much for doing that," Mark's mother said. "As you can see, Mark treasured it."

Mark's former classmates gathered around her.

Charlie smiled rather sheepishly and said, "I still have my list. It's in the top drawer of my desk at home." Chuck's wife told her that her husband had asked her to put his pages in their wedding album. "I have mine too," Marilyn said. "It's in my diary."

Then Vicki reached into her purse, took out her wallet and showed her tattered list to the group. "I always carry this with me," she said and added, "I think we all saved our lists."

As I read this story, I asked myself how different would the lives of these students have been without their lists?

There are many opportunities to fill buckets with love and appreciation, we need only to 'see' with our hearts.

Revised to fit available space—Editor

This week's winners

Congratulations!



Teresa Applegate, of Pierceton, Indiana, is our Bucket Filler of the Week.

Congratulations, Teresa! 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

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." — Pericles

