



## Bucket Fillers

PO BOX 255, BRIGHTON, MI 48116  
PH: 810-229-5468 FX: 810-588-6782  
WWW.BUCKETFILLERS101.COM

## Making a Difference

Only Bucket Fillers  
Visit a Hallmark Store



Hallmark.com

Did you know that Hallmark stores are one of the reasons that sales of our first book exploded? It's true.

Shortly after "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" was published in June of 2006, Diane and Tonya Molitor of Di's Hallmark heard about it. The Molitor's own ten Hallmark stores in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area. They bought a case of our books, sight unseen.

Four and a half years later, they are still selling our books and their sales prompted hundreds of other Hallmark stores to carry and sell our books all across the U.S.

It's really not surprising when you think about it. Only bucket fillers enter a Hallmark store. You don't go into a card store to buy something for yourself; you're thinking of someone else. That's the definition of a bucket filler!

# Bucket Fill-osophy 101™

WEEKLY WORDS OF WISDOM TO KEEP YOUR BUCKET FILLED

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## A Hallmark Movie Message

**Bucket Nugget** by Carol McCloud, the Bucket Lady

I enjoy watching movies on the Hallmark Channel, especially over the holidays. As I'm wrapping presents or decorating, I can usually catch a movie that's festive, wholesome, bucketfilling, and also has a happy ending.

One such movie was "The Christmas Choir" about a young, workaholic accountant who was jilted by his fiancée, went on a drinking binge, stumbled across a homeless man, and was taken to a shelter. There, the director gave him some coffee and asked him this philosophical question, "What's the purpose of life?" He answered something like, "To be happy, I guess," to which she responded, "Our real purpose is to be useful, to make a difference."



Hallmarkchannel.com

I thought about each of their perspectives and said to myself, "In many ways, they're both right." We should enjoy our lives and be happy. At the same time, much of our happiness is a byproduct of being useful and making a difference in someone else's life.

"The Christmas Choir" is a story about a young man who started to notice the needs of others. He stopped thinking about himself and started thinking about what he could do for someone else. He worked with the men at the shelter and helped to form them into a harmonious choir that ended up bringing joy to many. And, as these men experienced a sense of value, their lives improved, too.

Bucket fillers know that when they fill other people's buckets, they fill their own. They know this, not because someone told them so, but because they experience a sense of pride and happiness as a result of their actions. When we stop *trying* to make ourselves happy and do something for someone else's benefit, we fill our own buckets and we become happy. And, yes, we do need to remember to use our lids and not let people abuse our service, but it really is serving others that brings us deep satisfaction and happiness.

Make it a great year. Do something for someone else. Be a Bucket Filler.

## Congratulations!

**Debye Judge**, Counselor at Serene Hills Elementary in Austin, Texas, is this week's bucket filler of the week. Congratulations, Debye! 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).



## Quote of the Week

*"Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness."*

- Seneca