

# THE LEMONADE STAND

As a child, writer Bill Tammus sold lemonade in front of his house in Woodstock, Ill. Like all kids, he was thrilled by the triumph of every sale.

Then one day, something happened that made an even bigger impression.

Some high school boys drove up. One got out of the car, walked over, and handed the sidewalk entrepreneur a dollar. Not for any lemonade. Just for – what?

Probably just to be kind, Tammus believes. He remembers the event because it made him believe in the possibility of “grace – pure, unmerited favor” – in the form of unexpected kindness.



It gave him a vision of the best in human nature and the way it can suddenly appear. It also taught him to be generous himself, something that he remembered long after the event and which made him a lifelong supporter of lemonade stands.

Marla Hinkle, an occupational therapist at Life Care Center of Melbourne, Fla., is an example. She developed a Breakfast Club for residents who are near to their rehab graduation date. In this program, residents use the new practice apartment/kitchen to cook breakfast from their very own recipes. The breakfast takes place every Friday, and each week a department director is given a special invitation.

This brand of benevolence is within the kindness of every supervisor as well. Saying thanks to one of your workers for an idea or for doing a good job, sharing a joke with an associate who is feeling down, a simple gift to celebrate an occasion – all are easy to do and inexpensive, even compared to a glass of lemonade.

– Beecher Hunter