The Fall 2012 Semester began on August 22 with a good enrollment of 207 students. Freshmen Deidra Pillow, Kassi Lawrence, and Sophomore Aynsley Broom are pictured here as they settle in for their next class.

THANK YOU! We are extremely grateful for all the individuals and congregations that have helped with CRC DAY so far this year. 327 CRC DAY gifts have been received representing 58 congregations. $66,810 is a 29% increase over last year’s CRC DAY total!

If you would like to know if your congregation participated and the amount given, please contact us below. We still have time to reach the $75,000 goal this year if a few more individuals and congregations would send a gift before this year ends. CRC DAY gifts this year are being used to help our Bible department with more than $200,000 of expenses; including Bible scholarships, preaching training, educational materials, Restoration Tour, etc.

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CRC DAY campaign at $66,811.10 . . . still time to help!
As each academic year begins at CRC, there is always an excitement that accompanies the new school year. For just a brief moment, the administration, faculty, and staff will reflect on the past 47 years as they prepare to observe, with great anticipation, the transformation of young lives to a greater maturity, not only in academics but in spiritual formation as well. These are indeed special years, as most traditionally-aged college students form life-long perspectives that govern their lives.

The excitement of the new academic year was enhanced as a group of students moved into the new Johnson Honor Housing apartment unit. Just barely over a year ago, on September 23, 2011, we broke ground for this wonderful project and stated that the construction budget was $225,000. The actual construction cost was $213,418.35. As the construction project was underway, CRC’s Advancement Department, under the direction of Richard Johnson, was raising money to totally pay for the structure. As of today, gifts earmarked for this project stand at $209,954.43. We only lack gifts of $3,463.92 to have the building totally paid for. Words can’t express just how important the completion of this structure was to CRC at this particular point in the college’s history and just how important it is to the future of our college.

As we strive to attract more and more students to CRC we are constantly increasing our academic offerings. In addition to Bachelor Degrees in Business and Biblical Studies, CRC is now offering courses leading to a BSE in Early Childhood Education (P-4) and a BSE in Physical Education (P-12) with our first graduating class scheduled for May 2014. CRC has also entered a collaborative agreement with Harding University to offer courses leading to a variety of Educational Masters Degrees on our campus and CRC continues to be a leader among Arkansas Private Colleges and Universities with the number of undergraduate on-line class offerings.

CRC received an $18,457 grant from the Roy and Christine Sturgis Charitable and Educational Trust for the purpose of significantly upgrading technology in the college’s computer labs all over campus. With the grant, CRC purchased 50 L300 NComputing devices that are powered by a vSpace server. The devices weigh about one pound each and are attached to the back of a computer monitor, and take the place of a traditional computer. There are many advantages to operating computer labs with this style of equipment including substantial energy savings and improved efficiency of Information Technology Department Staff.

Over the next several months, we plan to make additional upgrades to campus facilities. A $66,707 Wilson Hall South Wing Renovation Project is scheduled for May 2013, and a new, much needed, Air Conditioning System is planned for the Carter Activities Center with construction work to begin within the month. Both of these projects are subject to appropriate funding being in place, and we are confident these projects will be funded by generous CRC donors.

As we review the progress of Crowley’s Ridge College over the last decade, I am so glad that the Lord has chosen to bless CRC in so many ways. This wonderful ministry continues to enrich the lives of the students it serves as it prepares individuals for lives of faith and service. As we look to the next decade with eager anticipation, I pause to wonder what the Lord has in store for CRC. “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (Jeremiah 29:10-12).
Crowley’s Ridge College lost a dear friend on Monday, July 16, 2012, when Mr. Otto “Bud” Barron of Newport, Arkansas departed this life at the age of 87. Bud and Rovene were married on April 21, 1946, at the Holden Avenue Church of Christ and made Newport their home. They celebrated 67 years of marriage!

Bud was a World War II Navy Veteran and a lifetime member and Past Commander of Collier-Massey Post #4683 VFW and a member of the Neil-Griffin Post #47 of the American Legion. He retired from the Arkansas Employment Security Division at Newport after 31 years of service, 21 of those years he was manager.

Bud and Rovene have been faithful and devoted members of the Holden Avenue Church of Christ at Newport for many years. They also worked side by side on 35 overseas mission trips, including work in the Ukraine, Caribbean, Guyana, and the Pacific regions. When I think of a “soul winner” I often think of Bud and Rovene. Their love for the Lord was easily seen, and sharing their faith with people around the world seemed second nature to both of them.

I am privileged to have known Bud and Rovene over the last several years. Their love for mission work was evident to me from our first visit in their home. They spoke about several of their mission trips, making new friends overseas and many humorous stories, too. Bud’s sense of humor was wonderful and so is Rovene’s. They truly enjoyed life together and I enjoyed their friendship and hospitality. Our first visit came at Bud’s request because he and Rovene wanted to establish an endowment fund to help CRC students interested in missions or preaching.

Bud and Rovene’s generous spirit, love of mission work, and admiration of Christian education are the main reasons they decided to establish the **Bud and Rovene Barron Bible and Mission Endowment Fund** at CRC a few years ago. It is a restricted endowment fund for the purpose of annual scholarships to Bible majors or other students for mission work. The fund is invested conservatively and only the interest that it earns is being distributed to one or more CRC students each year. This will allow the fund to continue for as long as CRC exists and Lord willing, that means until He comes again. Bud and Rovene have added to this fund several times. Following Bud’s death, many friends contributed memorial gifts which CRC immediately added to Bud and Rovene’s endowment fund. Adding gifts to their endowment fund is an excellent way to increase the amount that CRC will award annually to one or more deserving students. Bud’s desire was to have others add gifts to their endowment fund or to create a different endowment to help CRC students pursue a Christian education.

CRC is still receiving gifts nearly each week in memory of Bud Barron. When someone sends a memorial gift to CRC we promptly send them a thank you letter and a personalized card to the person or persons that the donor sending the memorial gift wanted acknowledged. Memorial gifts are a wonderful way to make a gift to CRC while paying tribute to a family member, friend or someone who has greatly influenced your life. Please use the form below to make a memorial to the Bud and Rovene Barron Bible and Mission Endowment Fund or someone else dear to you, or as an honor gift for a special occasion.

**A Tribute to Bud and Rovene Barron**

Richard Johnson
Vice President
for Advancement

"When I think of a ‘soul winner’ I often think of Bud and Rovene."
Applying to college is a thrilling experience, and CRC’s admissions staff is thrilled when a prospective student considers applying for enrollment at Crowley’s Ridge College. Our admissions personnel want to do everything we can to answer questions, guide prospective students through the admission process, and introduce them to CRC.

Usually prospective students have all kinds of questions about college. Some of their most frequently asked questions include: What are the dorm rooms like, how many students are in a typical class, what degrees are offered, what kind of college life activities are available or what’s Paragould like?

Our admissions staff is working very hard to try to answer these questions in person. They have college fairs planned over the next few months and are visiting congregations on Wednesday evenings and some Sundays. Michael Nix and Chris Hughes often teach teen Bible classes and sometimes preach. Plus, they attend a number of youth rallies in AR, MO and TN and are always looking for new events to represent CRC.

Another opportunity to visit with prospective students in person will be at Fall Discovery Days on campus at Crowley’s Ridge College on November 6-7. Discovery Days are for all juniors and seniors interested in learning more about CRC. Activities will center around women’s and men’s home basketball games; including a tailgate cookout with an entertainer later in the evening, a video and then capped off with a devotional. Oh, and we don’t want to forget getting to know each other while enjoying some s’mores around a campfire! Discovery Days is a great time to get a feel for what CRC is like by attending chapel, class, having lunch in the cafeteria and a campus tour. Another Discovery Days is now being planned for the spring with a date to be announced soon.

We also encourage prospective students to schedule a campus visit by themselves or with parents or with some of their friends. We’re happy to have guests stay overnight in our dorms. We’ll match them up with one or more of our students and let them experience college life firsthand.

To learn more about CRC and if it’s the right place for a junior or senior in your area, look at our website at www.crc.edu. Click on “New Students” then click on “Steps to CRC Admission.” This page will walk you through the Admission Process. Go ahead and explore some of the other informational pages under the “New Students” such as “Academic Programs, Admissions Forms, or Admissions Guidelines” or some of the other navigational links to read more about CRC.

Our goal is for any prospective student to come to campus so we can meet with you in person, then stay in touch with you by phone, text messages, Facebook, postcards and other mail. So why not come for a campus tour, or attend some of our events? Our admissions staff is happy to visit with a prospective student at their congregation, school or home. If you see a CRC table at your school or church, please stop by and visit, and let our staff know of your interest.

If you know of a high school junior or senior in your area that might enjoy a small campus with an extra personal touch and a wonderful Christian faculty and staff, please let us know.

Please contact our Admissions Team at:
Crowley’s Ridge College
Nancy Joneshill, Director of Admissions
100 College Drive, Paragould, AR 72450
Local (870) 236-6901 • Toll Free (800) 264-1096
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As of Oct. 2nd, the Lady Pioneer Volleyball Team has posted a record of 8-4...

Leigha Norden and Katie Howe were selected as NCCAA players of the week for two consecutive weeks...

Congratulations to the team and these two ladies for their hard work and dedication!

The Men’s Pioneer Basketball team had a 3.27 GPA for the 2012 Spring Semester!

We are so proud of our athletes for their hard work in academics AND athletics!

The CRC Pioneer Baseball Team will host a 100-inning game on October 20th beginning at 9:00 A.M. and running most of the day. Funds from the 100-inning game will go for the “Breast Cancer Awareness Fund” at our local hospital. You’re invited to join us. Come cheer us on and enjoy some burgers and dogs and get in the game yourself!

Tracy (Swain) Rowell (’85) lives in Greenbrier, Arkansas and teaches Special Education. She attends Vilonia Church of Christ. She has one son, Jake Smith.


Deborah (Elkins) Collins (’70) lives in Pocahontas, Arkansas and attends WestRidge Church of Christ there.

Francie Workman (’69) left CRC and went to Harding in 1969-70. She transferred and graduated with BSE in Elem. ED from ASU. She met Bill Workman that spring and married in 1972 at Hoxie, AR. They have 2 children, Clayton Workman and Amy Cooper and 3 grandsons. Francie taught school for 34 years and retired in 2007. She taught the last 22 of 34 at Nettleton Public Schools in Jonesboro. She and Bill are members of the Greensboro Rd Church of Christ in Jonesboro, and are active in a lot of the works of the church. He is one of their song leaders. She teaches Bible classes and helps with youth activities age infant to 15.

Michael Coley (’71) is a high school counselor in Blanchard, Oklahoma. He and his wife, Sarah, have one daughter, Rachel. They attend the Church of Christ.

Sherrel Wayne Lawhon (’69) has been on medical leave of absence this past year as he is the care giver for his wife, Kathy Lynn (Greene) Lawhon. Kathy is in stage 4 cancer and is doing very well with chemo treatments. Sherrel and Kathy live in Bartlett, TN, a suburb of Memphis. They both were elementary school teachers. Kathy had to retire because of disability, Sherrel Wayne planned to return to the classroom in July.

Andrea (Housmann) Davis (’04) loves teaching 3rd grade at Cherokee Elementary in Highland, Arkansas.

Joshua Dement (’05) and his wife, Kristie, live in Pocahontas, Arkansas where he is a Financial Representative and preaches at Noland Church of Christ.

Marcia (Pratt) Smith (’72) lives in Abilene, Texas, with her husband, Leon Smith. She has taught for the Abilene ISD for 20 years. She has four daughters, Sara Geer, Iowa City, Iowa; Rachel Geer is in the Peace Corps in Ukraine; and Debi Smith and Kim Napolitano live in Austin, Texas.

Scott Foster (’92) and his wife, Lisa, live in Naylor, Missouri where he is a Licensed Professional Counselor.
Dr. Spencer Furby, a 1992 graduate of Crowley's Ridge College and native of Fredericktown, Missouri, was honored with the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award at the CRC Homecoming Festivities in February, 2012. While a student at CRC, he was Student Government Association President and received many honors and awards. He presently serves on the CRC Board of Trustees and has since 2007.

Spencer has served as the pulpit minister at the Slicer Street Church of Christ in Kennett, Missouri since 1995. He is married to the former Melissa Reddick of Paragould, and they have two children, Noah and Abby.

After graduating from CRC in 1992, he received his bachelors degree from Freed Hardeman University in Henderson, Tennessee, and then earned a doctorate from Harding Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tennessee.

“CRC is very proud of our alumni and so pleased to honor Spencer for his dedication to CRC first as a student, and now in his Christian service to others,” said CRC President Ken Hoppe. Spencer was presented with a plaque which read, “Crowley’s Ridge College Distinguished Alumnus Award presented to Dr. Spencer Furby, in Recognition of Outstanding Service to the Church, the Community, and Christian Education.”