Crowley’s Ridge College is excited about the addition of the above Student Center/Lobby with construction scheduled to begin the end of this school year in May. The architect’s rendering above shows the front of the Gay Carter Activities Center with the addition of the Student Center/Lobby.

As we mentioned in the last “CRC Insider,” a very generous family and long-time friends to the college made a $100,000 donation to be used toward the Student Center/Lobby. This family, who prefers to remain anonymous, wanted to give toward a project that would immediately connect with the students and let them know that CRC is thrilled they chose us as their college.

This 3,080 square feet new facility was a perfect fit for this generous family and meets an important need for CRC and our students. We are also grateful for two other generous families who contributed a combined total of $35,000 toward this project. The student lounge will be a nicely furnished area for students with quality furniture, a large LCD-HDTV and latest video games, to name a few items. The concession area and bathrooms will better serve our athletic and campus event needs.

Our estimated total cost for the facility is $250,000. Site preparation is scheduled for April 20. It is important to raise the remaining $115,000 by this August. Gifts for this facility must be raised in addition to our annual support. Please contact us at 870-236-6901 or 1-800-264-1096 if you want to make a gift toward this project.
One of the highlights of CRC’s Homecoming on February 14th was presenting the Distinguished Alumnus Award to Jerry Phillips. It is with deep regret that we share with you the passing of Jerry on Wednesday, February 18th. He was an alumnus, a former board member and adjunct professor. Jerry was a great friend to the college and our hearts are heavy. We extend our love and sympathy to his wife, Betty, two daughters, three granddaughters, one grandson and numerous friends.

As the history of CRC is being discussed in the future, 2008 will stand out as a significantly historical year. With CRC having been granted the necessary regulatory approval, Bachelor Degree level classes began with the fall semester of 2008. CRC had something it had never had before – juniors. Nineteen individuals were enrolled and became CRC’s first “Junior Class.”

CRC’s journey to become a 4 year college started in 2000 when CRC first became accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and became a member of the North Central Association. In 2005, with the reaffirmation of CRC’s accrediting for a 10 year period, another giant step toward the dream of Senior College Status was realized. On December 6, 2006, the CRC Board of Directors passed a resolution authorizing “President Hoppe to seek approval from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission to offer Baccalaureate Degrees.” This resolution started the final leg of the journey which lasted for 21 months as CRC proceeded through the regulatory process. On December 10, 2007 the Arkansas Department of Higher Education gave its approval and on September 4, 2008, the Higher Learning Commission granted its approval and rendered an official statement extending CRC’s accreditation to include all degrees offered by CRC, both Associate and Baccalaureate level.

Some other noteworthy events occurred in 2008:

- As the 2008/2009 academic year began, a 19% increase in full time students was noted over the previous academic year. Never in CRC’s history had such a dramatic increase in enrollment occur in a one-year period.
- A record FTE (full time equivalent) student population was also achieved during the fall semester of 2008.
- CRC’s total contributions for 2008 were up 33% over the previous year.
- CRC awarded a record amount of scholarships for the school-year of 2007-08 with more than $277,000 to recipients.
- Twenty-nine Bible Majors are enrolled this year at CRC. A record setting number.

As we plan for continued success for many years to come, I know we can count on the support of many of our alumni, friends, churches, businesses and foundations. We have a lot of work to do as we implement some of our plans. We are already working toward adding other Bachelor Degrees within the next few years. We also must raise millions of dollars for needed facilities. These facilities include the Student Center/Lobby on page one and we desperately need to build a new women’s dormitory to meet our student growth needs. Plans also include remodeling a dormitory and adding a 10,000 square foot addition to our administration building for classrooms, offices and to expand our library.

We have other needs as well, but I’m sure you get the picture – we don’t have time to sit still with so much to do. We pray for wisdom in planning for the future of Crowley’s Ridge College. God has blessed us tremendously and as we keep Him at the forefront of CRC, I have faith that He will continue to do so.

Ken Hoppe
President
Spirit of America XVII is scheduled for April 17, 2009 on the CRC Campus. Richard N. Henson will be our featured speaker/performer. This event is CRC’s premier community event and scholarship fundraiser.

Sponsorship Opportunities:
- $2,500 - Event Underwriter
- $500 - Corporate Sponsor
- $50 - Individual Tickets

An Event Underwriter receives up to 5 tables for up to 40 preferred seating tickets. Corporate Sponsors receive 8 preferred seating tickets.

Richard N. Henson is a nationally known motivational speaker/humorist, business owner and master craftsman from Benton, Kentucky. He is the author of “FROM 25 CENTS TO HERE - the story of a broom man,” a book, which chronicles the story of his four generation, family owned business since 1930.

Richard is the third generation of his family to manage Henson Broom Shop & General Store located at Symsonia, KY. He is known for the high quality, artistic brooms he made for shows such as “Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman” and the Northern Ballet Theatre of Leeds, an England ballet production, “Angels in the Architecture.” His brooms are in all 50 states and 11 foreign countries.

Richard is a former teacher, coach and high school principal who left that field to take over the small family business. His experiences and success as a broom maker enabled him to launch his dream of being a motivational speaker and humorist. He always had a flair for performing in his youth so with the last words of his grandfather and the encouragement of his high school teacher, he has now found his niche. Richard took the story of a 25 cent broom and all the stories in between and now is in demand as a speaker/humorist. He has performed in Branson, Missouri at Club Celebrity, the Hot Springs Arkansas Convention Center, Arkansas State University in Mountain Home for the Gaston Lecture Series and in Caesars on the Ohio in Elizabeth, Indiana, to name a few examples.

The Henson family’s poignant and motivational story has been the subject of countless newspaper articles, books, magazines and television appearances across the country. In 1993, PBS filmed a documentary about Henson Broom Shop and General Store and was featured on RFD-TV in 2006 and recently in the Martha Stewart Living and Country Living magazine.

Richard N. Henson uses the stories of his youth in the south of the 1960s, the family business success; the triumphs, tragedies and lots of humor with his high energy to truly entertain his audiences. Richard N. Henson is the speaker that “sweeps you off your feet!”

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9th Annual Bible Lectureship April 12 – 15, 2009

HEBREWS: SO GREAT A SALVATION

(All classes held in the Gay Carter Activities Center)

**Sunday, April 12, 2009**
7:00 p.m. – Keynote Session
Songs – Cade Smith
Speaker – Spencer Furby
The Superior Son – Heb 1:1-3

**Monday, April 13, 2009**
9 a.m. – Combined session
Speaker – Ricky Hale
Introduction to Hebrews

10:00 – Class No. 1 (Men)
Speaker – Stan Dauck
An Unshakable Kingdom 12:14-29

10:00 – Class No. 2 (Women)
Speaker – Luanne Gregory
An Unshakable Kingdom 12:14-29

11:00 – Chapel
Speaker – Sid Smith
Brother Jesus 2:5-18
12:00 p.m. – Lunch

1:00 – Combined Session
Speaker – Johnny Hinton
A New Covenant 8:1-13

2:00 – Combined Session
Speaker – Larry Woodward
The Earthly Tabernacle 9:1-10

5:30 – Preachers/Elders Supper

7:00 – Keynote Session
Songs – Rusty McMillon
Speaker – David Gibson
Going on to Maturity 5:11-6:20

**Tuesday, April 14, 2009**
9:00 a.m. – Combined Session
Speaker – Jody McFadden
The Results of Unbelief 3:1-19

10:00 – Question/Answer Session
Speaker – Earl Edwards

11:00 – Chapel
Speaker – John Mark Wilson
Drawing Near to God 10:19-39

12:00 p.m. – Lunch

1:00 Class No. 1 (Men)
Speaker – Lonnie Pyle
Entering God’s Final Rest 4:1-13

1:00 – Class No. 2 (Women)
Speaker – Marilynn Reaves
Entering God’s Final Rest 4:1-13

2:00 – Combined Session
Speaker – Phillip Rainwater
The Eternal Sacrifice 10:1-18

5:30 – Supper

7:00 – Keynote Session
Songs – Richard Johnson
Speaker – Jimmy Adcox
Cleansed by the Blood 9:11-28

(Wednesday, April 15 Classes continued on next page)
CRC is about to have 4 T1 lines installed to meet our current and future needs for high speed internet. It will also open doors to offer a variety of distance delivery classes. The cost for this new item to our annual operational budget will be $1,400 per month.

We are currently approaching foundations and individuals regarding providing funds for computer network equipment and fiber optics. This will enable us to provide wireless (WIFI) throughout the entire campus, including the girls and boys dorms and all educational related facilities. The cost for this project in its final stage will be about $250,000. We plan to complete this project in 3 stages.

Step 1 is to obtain high-speed internet = 4 bonded T1 lines at a cost of $1,400 per month.

Step 2 is to buy the networking equipment at a cost of $150,000.

Step 3 is to install and connect all buildings with fiber optic lines estimated at more than $100,000.

One of our less expensive needs related to technology is to purchase 9 two-station computer desks for the McClanahan Technology Center. Dennis and Fran McClanahan gave CRC $20,000 initially to pay for the desktop computer systems. The two-station computer desks are needed to have an improved workspace for our students near the computers. A donation of approximately $600 will purchase one of these desks. A total of $6,000 is needed to purchase all 9 desks plus a desk for the instructor.

Please contact us at 870-236-6901 or 1-800-264-1096 if you have an interest in helping us fund any of these technology related projects.

YOU make the Difference!

CRC Day - June 14, 2009, $75,000 is the goal. Will YOU and YOUR congregation join us this year?

Phonathon - Our students will be calling many of YOU in March and April. They will be asking for a one-time gift or a monthly, quarterly, bi-annual or annual pledge.

President’s Circle Dinner - May 19, 2009 at CRC. The evening will feature a delicious catered dinner honoring our President’s Circle $1000 or more annual gift members. 145 individuals, families, congregations and businesses currently participate in this annual program as we work our way to having one thousand donors give $1,000 a year (or $84 per month) totaling $1,000,000! Will YOU join the President’s Circle?

Lectureship continued

Wednesday, April 15, 2009
9 a.m. – Combined Session
Speaker – Jon Binkley
The Great High Priest 4:14 – 5:10
10:00 – Class No. 1 (Men)
Speaker – Michael Cox
Learning from Angels 1:4 – 2:4
10:00 – Class No. 2 (Women)
Speaker – Andrea Johnson
Learning from Angels 1:4 – 2:4
11:00 – Chapel
Speaker – Travis Eades
Jesus: The Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever 13:1-25
12:00 p.m. – Lunch
1:00 – Combined Session
Speaker – Bill Clary
By Faith... 11:1-40
2:00 – Combined Session
Speaker – Gary Cremeens
Melchize-Who? 7:1-28
5:30 – Supper
7:00 – Keynote Session
Songs – Micah Brinkley
Speaker – Carroll Sites
Fixing our Eyes upon Jesus 12:1-13
Announcement of 2010 Theme