

RUSTY LUCAS
P.O. Box 422
SANDUSKY, OHIO 44871-0422

December 19, 2003

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
P.O. Box 787
Lebanon, Tennessee 37088-0787

Dear Cracker Barrel:

I am a lover of your country style restaurants and gift shops. I try to visit them whenever I am on the road. I am not on the road often, but on the occasions that I am I always watch for signs that say Cracker Barrel on them, I tell you! So you will believe me when I tell you that I was so overcome with joy when you opened a new store right in MY TOWN!

I was recently on vacation with my mom and dad and we stopped at a Cracker Barrel in South Carolina. I was wondering before we went inside if it would be the same, because I have actually never eaten in a Cracker Barrel outside of Ohio. You see, I rarely travel on long vacations because my family has a rule that nobody is permitted to drive more than 90 minutes at a time... for obvious safety reasons.

I remember one time when I was meeting some friends in downtown Cleveland for drinks and some food. (They were moving out to the East Coast the following week). That is usually about an hour or so for me to drive, so it is well within my 90 minute window. Well what I didn't know was that there was a Cher concert going on that night right near where I was headed and I got stuck in traffic on the highway just outside of downtown! It was a horrific traffic jam! I literally went about 3 miles in 90 minutes! The police report said that I compounded the traffic problem when I got out of my car and asked around if anyone else would help me drive the rest of the way to see my friends. But by that time, I had already been behind the wheel for almost 100 minutes!!! At that point I was playing with fire I assure you! I assured the officer as well, but he didn't seem to agree. I just think he was annoyed because he had to work on Cher concert night.

Anyway, at the South Carolina Cracker Barrel, I ordered the chicken (and it was quite tasty), but I must tell you that I was quite impressed with the pretty waitress lady and the way she talked. She had a funny way of saying words; it sounded like a cross between being drunk and some other voice inflections. Then I realized when we were at the hotel, that other people were talking the same way. Now, I tell you that they were NOT drunk, (I don't want you to get mad at your South Carolina employees for drinking on the job, they were not), but they just had funny speaking voices. You know, I can't really explain it because I am writing instead of talking. If I

were talking to you I could imitate the funny way their voices sounded -- I am a good imitator. My friend Sampson can verify this if necessary. He says that over the walkie talkies (we don't have a phone anymore) that I can make myself sound just like Raj from *What's Happening*. Do you remember that show? I heard that Rerun just died recently and I cried.

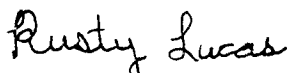
Anyway, I am straying from my point. I really thought that the waitress lady had a pretty voice and I wondered if we could arrange some kind of Cracker Barrel waitress lady exchange. I remember Sampson talking about a cousin of his whose family once had a foreign exchange student in their house from Sweden. I think his name was Bo. You could do something similar where the waitress lady from an Ohio store could go down to South Carolina and the pretty waitress lady from South Carolina could come up to Ohio. Then everyone in Ohio would be able to hear how she talks different. We would not make fun of how she talks different, but I think there are many others in my city who have never heard a live South Carolinian talking. It would be neat -- especially if it is the pretty waitress lady that comes here. She made me smile!

You could even use it in your advertising about meeting people from different states who talk different than you do. A new slogan could be: "It takes all kinds of Crackers to fill up the Barrel." It could be a national Cracker Barrel employee exchange.

Please consider this for your future plans and write to me so I know when the pretty waitress lady will be in my local store.

And also, if you have any free promotional baseball caps with the Cracker Barrel logo on them that are free, I would like to have one if it is free.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rusty Lucas".

Rusty Lucas

p.s. I really like your store decorations and I wonder if you can tell me where you got the trombone from because my sister and her husband both play the trombone and I bet they would like to know where they can buy one!

MERRY CHRISTMAS 2003!!! I love the Baby Jesus!