

#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF CORPORATION FINANCE

September 13, 2013

<u>Via E-mail</u> Michael J. Zylstra Vice President and General Counsel Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. 305 Hartmann Drive Lebanon, TN 37087

# Re: Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. Preliminary Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A Filed September 5, 2013 File No. 1-25225

Dear Mr. Zylstra:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your filing, by providing the requested information, or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your filing and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

## Preliminary Proxy Statement

General Information, page 1

# Who pays for the Company's solicitation of proxies, page 2

- 1. We note that proxies may be solicited by mail, by telephone, via the Internet, press releases or advertisements, or in-person. Please be advised that all written soliciting materials, including any scripts to be used in soliciting proxies over the telephone or any correspondence and any information posted on the Internet must be filed under the cover of Schedule 14A. Refer to Rule 14a-6(b) and (c). Please confirm your understanding in your response letter.
- 2. We note that you disclose the methods by which your directors and employees may solicit proxies. Please revise to disclose each of the methods employed and to be

Michael J. Zylstra Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. September 13, 2013 Page 2

> employed, including how MacKenzie or any other persons will solicit shareholders. Refer to Item 4(b) of Schedule 14A.

3. Please fill in the amount that has been incurred to date as this amount is known. Refer to Item 4(b)(4) and Instruction 1 to Item 4 of Schedule 14A.

## Election of Directors, page 43

### Background to Potential Contested Solicitation, page 43

- 4. In the first full paragraph on page 44, please revise to clarify that a control premium is not required to be offered to all of the Company's shareholders.
- 5. In the second paragraph on page 45, please revise to describe the "strong financial and operational performance in 2013" and the "substantial changes made to the composition of the Company's management and the Board since 2011."

### Director Nominees, page 47

6. We note the registrant reserves the right to vote for unidentified substitute nominees. Please confirm for us that should the registrant nominate substitute nominees before the meeting, the registrant will file an amended proxy statement that (1) identifies the substitute nominees, (2) discloses whether such nominees have consented to being named in the revised proxy statement and to serve if elected and (3) includes the disclosure required by Items 5(b) and 7 of Schedule 14A with respect to such nominees.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable Exchange Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In responding to our comments, please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

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Please contact me at (202) 551-3411 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

/s/ Peggy Kim

Peggy Kim Special Counsel Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

cc: Scott Bell, Esq. Bass, Berry & Sims PLC