

**November 22nd:** Bill Copeland participated in the CCC schoolhouse project again. He reported that the priority for this weekend was to finish adding a few more top plates to level everything, to place 2 I-beams on top of the plates, and to add the kick plates and joists that will form the structure for the temporary roof and someday the floor of the loft. Bill said it was an engineering feat for 6 old men to get those 2 400 lb I-beams up 11.5 feet to rest on the top plates, but somehow we managed not to kill anyone. He said all of the kick plates got installed and most of the joists. **November 23rd:** OHG members Bill Copeland, Eddie and Josh Simmons, Wayne Pierce with old OHG friend Steve Cobb, Chris St. George, Bob Stratford, Jamie Euliss, James Potts, and Tim took a club trip to Upper Howell Cave to view the latest cave OHG has mapped. While we were there, we also toured Lower Howell, and Mite Cave. The last two are our next two caves to map in Laclede County. It was a little chilly but Bob built a great fire and Chris grilled up some great dogs and burgers to warm our tummies. We had a great time caving and just hanging out as a group. We must do this more often. Thanks to the great landowners who have welcomed us back anytime. **December 3rd:** Charley Rey and another Glendale school teacher took 30 of Charley's science class thru Breakdown Cave. He took them thru a loop of the main cave, and then took 8 of them thru Hells Gate and beyond. Charley reported that the Lower Slouchway is still sumped.

**Upcoming Trips and Events:**

**December 6th:** OHG Christmas Party at Randy and Melanie's house. Randy said come anytime after 4:00PM. Bring a Pot Luck dish.

**December 7th:** Carroll Cave Trip. Meet at the Strafford McDonald's between 8-8:30AM

**December 6-7:** CCC schoolhouse work trip. Meet at the Schoolhouse at 9:00am on Saturday.

**December 14th:** Lower Howell Cave survey trip. Meet at the Strafford McDonalds at 9:00am.

**December 16th:** Charley Rey will lead a trip of students to Lost Hill Park (North of Hillcrest HS) for some survey practice. Call Charley for more info.

**February ?:** Bill Copeland is plan to lead who ever can go to his land in Kentucky probably during the middle of the month (weather permitting) Might be able to arrange a Ropple Cave trip

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM by Chris St. George

Respectfully submitted  
Bill Copeland

