

The Mockingbird Room is located on the third floor of the Reng Student Center on the campus of Arkansas State University. It is located at the intersection of Aggie Road and Caraway Road. Parking is available in the parking garage on Caraway Road north of the Reng Center. Visitors may park in specially marked visitor spaces for \$1.00. Metered parking is available on the south side of the Dean B. Ellis Library.

The Southern Tenant Farmers Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Tyronza, Arkansas. From Jonesboro take U.S. Highway 63 south toward Memphis. Exit at the Tyronza Exit (Exit 8) and proceed over the overpass into town. The museum is located on the left side of Main Street immediately before the railroad tracks. Parking is located in the museum lot on Chickasaw Street, in the city owned grass lot on Chickasaw, and along Main Street.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

For additional information contact

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An Arkansas State University Heritage Site



October 30, 2009



Eye
Openin'
Time

Southern Tenant Farmers Union

75th Anniversary Symposium

Arkansas State University

Eye Openin' Time:

Southern Tenant Farmers Union 75th Anniversary Symposium

Event Location:

Mockingbird Room, Student Union, Arkansas State University-Jonesboro

- 9:00-9:15 a.m. *Opening Remarks*
Dr. Ruth Hawkins, Arkansas State University
- 9:15-9:45 a.m. *Prelude to the STFU: Tenant Activism on the Lee Wilson Plantation in late 1933*
Dr. Jeannie Whayne, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville
- 9:45-10:15 a.m. *'I Ain't Got No Home in This World': The Rise and Fall of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union in Arkansas*
Dr. James Ross, University of Arkansas-Little Rock
- 10:15-10:45 a.m. *John Handcox and the Role of Music in the STFU*
Jodi Morris, Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, Heritage Studies Ph.D. Student
- 10:45-11:00 a.m. *Break*
- 11:00-11:30 a.m. *Talking Past Each Other: The STFU, the FSA and Competing Discourses of Poverty in the Depression-Era South*
Dr. Amanda Coleman, Arkansas State University-Jonesboro
- 11:30 – Noon *Steven Hahn, Britt McKinney and Ike Shaw: Rethinking the Interracial Nature of the STFU*
Grif Stockley, Butler Center and University of Arkansas-Little Rock
- Noon *Announcement of Essay Contest Winners*
Dr. Ruth Hawkins, Arkansas State University
- Noon-1:00 p.m. *Lunch Break*
- 1:00-1:30 p.m. *The Legacy of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union*
Dr. Samuel Mitchell, Professor Emeritus, University of Calgary, and son of STFU founder H. L. Mitchell
- 1:30-2:00 p.m. *Play: Southern Tenant Farmers Union Forever* (Written in 1937 by Flotine Hodge, Morton STFU Local), Presented by Public Personnel Administration Class, Arkansas State University

2:00-2:30 p.m. *Resisting Race Changes in the South*
Dr. Vernon Burton, Coastal Carolina University

2:30-3:00 p.m. *Vassar Feminists, Myrtle Lawrence and the Southern Tenant Farmers Union*
Dr. Elizabeth Payne, University of Mississippi

Event Location:

Southern Tenant Farmers Museum, Tyronza

3:00-4:00 p.m. Travel to Tyronza

4:00-7:00 p.m. *Museum Tours, Entertainment, Refreshments*
Music by Steve Lockwood and Don McGregor

("Eye Openin' Time" is a reference by STFU songster, poet and union organizer John Handcox to recognition of the need for the union to be integrated.)



Lest We Forget (1937), by Ben Shahn. Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.