



# The New Sharecroppers Voice

January 2011

Southern Tenant Farmers Museum

Vol. 4 Issue 1

## Military Mommy to be Presented

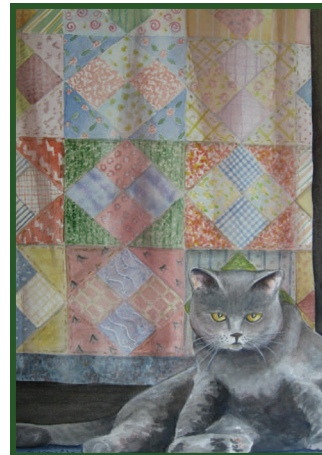
A book reading and signing will be held on January 20 from 5 p.m.—7 p.m. for Carol Dabney of Marked Tree, author of *Military Mommy*. *Military Mommy* is a charming poem about how one small boy deals with life as a military child. Through the eyes of five year old Noah, this children's picture book takes us on a journey as his mom goes away to boot camp, his separation issues, and what it's like now living on an Army base with her. All children can learn from the book and military children will relate to this humorous and touching true story.



Dabney will be reading from her book at two times, 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. to accommodate working parents who would like to attend. Along with writing books, she has composed and recorded musical CD albums for over 25 years and will also be sharing some of her latest songs at the book reading. Please join us on January 20 as we honor this local author and singer.

## Suzanne Churchill Exhibit

Suzanne Churchill will be the featured artist in February at the museum. Suzanne will be showing her latest series *Quilting in Watercolor* at the museum's Bank Gallery on February 7—March 10. It will coincide with annual quilt show which will be on March 5. This series of 15 painting was inspired by Suzanne's love for the beauty of time-worn quilts. Although Suzanne is a needle worker, she is not a quilter. But she admires and appreciates the love and hours of dedication that go into each quilt. She can only imagine the wonderful stories that go along with each and every stitch.



Suzanne Churchill is a life-long resident of Jonesboro, a graduate of Jonesboro High School and earned a BS in Commercial Art from ASU. She has continued her art education by attending numerous workshops. After working for several years as a graphic artist in printing and publishing, she began doing commissioned painting, working from her home studio.

Suzanne currently works full-time in her studio. A large part of her business comes from her internet sales of commissioned watercolor house portraits. Her house portraits hang in collections all over the United States as well as in a few other countries. Although she specializes in watercolor, she also works in acrylic, ink and pencil. Her work may be viewed on her website: [www.suzannecdesigns.com](http://www.suzannecdesigns.com).

### Reminder

**2011 Museum Memberships are available now!!**

Individual — \$25.00

Family — \$40.00

Senior/Student — \$10.00

Contact any staff member to become a museum member or to renew your membership!

## Calendar of Events

### January 20, 2011

Military Mommy Book Reading/Signing  
Carol Dabney  
5-7 p.m.

### Feb 4—March 10, 2011

Quilting in Watercolor Art Exhibit by Suzanne Churchill  
Bank Art Gallery

### March 5, 2011

STFM/Sunken Lands Quilt Show  
9 a.m.—5 p.m.



Volunteers are always needed at STFM. Contact Linda at the museum if you would be interested in joining us!

## 2011 Quilt Show

The 4th annual STFM Quilt Show will be held on March 5, 2011, beginning at 9 a.m. Started by STFM in 2008 in recognition of Women's History Month, the show will partner with the Sunken Lands Regional Chamber of Commerce to create a trail for quilt enthusiasts to travel that will include Dyess, Lepanto, Marked Tree, Tyronza, and Harrisburg.

Quilts in Tyronza will be displayed at STFM, First Baptist Church, Church of Christ and Tyronza Elementary. Other locations may be added later. Anyone wishing to display a quilt may contact any of the locations. STFM is requesting baby quilts for a special display at the museum but can assist in the display of full size quilts as well.

Classes in hand piecing, quilting, appliqué, and constructing yo-yos will be held in various locations throughout Tyronza. The hand quilting class will feature a quilt pieced by our graduate assistant, Anita Reddig. Each class participant will have the opportunity to quilt it as well as learn the proper techniques for layering the top, batting, and backing. A label will be attached to the back with each quilter's name on it. The finished project will be raffled off to raise money for next year's show. There will be a \$5 materials fee for all classes.

Marjorie Hunter of Marion, AR, will be back this year to teach classes and to present a lecture on the underground railroad titled "Codes in the Quilts." The lecture has been very popular for the past two years and many have requested that it be presented again.

A complete listing of the day's activities and the times of events should be on the STFM website, <http://stfm.astate.edu>, by the end of January. For more information you may contact any staff member at 870-487-2909 or email at [stfm@ritrnet.com](mailto:stfm@ritrnet.com).

**Right & Center:** Quilts lined the hallway of the East Poinsett County Elementary & First Baptist Church at the 2010 Quilt Show



**Far Right:** Marjorie Hunter will be teaching quilting classes again in 2011.



## Tyronza's Historic "Red Square"

In 1931, two Tyronza residents applied for and received a charter to organize a chapter of the Socialist Party. The Tyronza Socialist Party was the first in the state and one of the first in the South. Political rallies and regular scheduled meetings of the Socialist Party were held at the Odd Fellow Lodge in Tyronza. The 1932 Arkansas Socialist Party Convention was held in a big tent on the ball field in Tyronza with Norman Thomas, candidate for President of the United States as the featured speaker. Local residents began to refer to the corner of Main Street and Highway 63 (now Frisco Street) where a dry cleaners and gas station were located as "Red Square." Those buildings now house the **Southern Tenant Farmers Museum**.



We're on  
Facebook!!

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## Southern Tenant Farmers Museum



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Hours:  
Monday-Friday 9 am—3 pm  
Saturday: 12:00 pm—3 pm



*Southern Tenant  
Farmers Museum  
is an  
Arkansas State University  
Heritage Site*