

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY  
P.O. Box 300100  
624 Washington Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Sherrie Hamil  
334-353-4726  
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BOOK TALK AND SIGNING,  
*KEEPING THE FAITH: ORDINARY PEOPLE,  
EXTRAORDINARY LIVES* BY WAYNE FLYNT  
AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Join us at **noon** on **Thursday, October 13, 2011**, as Wayne Flynt presents ***Keeping the Faith: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives***. This informative talk and book signing will be held at the Alabama Department of Archives and History.

Widely recognized scholar Wayne Flynt chronicles the inner workings of his academic career at Samford and Auburn Universities, as well as his many contributions to the general history of Alabama in this historical memoir. In his talk, Flynt tells the story of his life and his battles, sometimes against an indifferent or hostile hierarchy. His detailed knowledge of both the history and power structures in Alabama often reveal uncomfortable truths about academic institutions that fall short of their stated missions, government and industry leaders who are weak and hold power by playing to the fears and prejudices of the public, and religious groups who abandon their original missions and instead seek financial and emotional comfort in lip service only. In this memoir Flynt details how Alabama institutions are often manipulated but, more importantly, he tells why Alabama citizens should care about their state.

Wayne Flynt has lived in Alabama most of his life, growing up in Birmingham, Dothan, and Anniston. He holds degrees from Samford University (formerly Howard College) and Florida State University. Flynt is Professor Emeritus, having served as chairman of the History Department at Auburn University. He is the author of twelve books, including *Alabama in the Twentieth Century* and the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *Poor but Proud: Alabama's Poor Whites*. He is co-author of *Alabama: A History of a Deep South State*, which also was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He also serves as the editor-in-chief of the online Encyclopedia of Alabama.

The public is invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a bit of Alabama history, free. Coffee and tea will be provided by the Friends of the Alabama Archives. His book will be available to purchase and he will sign copies of the book after the program. For more information, call (334) 353-4726.

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