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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Authors Mark Anniversary at Geological Society Meeting May 29

In honor of the 5th anniversary of the release of *Roadside Geology of Georgia*, its authors, Drs. Pamela Gore and Bill Witherspoon, will present a free public program on May 29. The slide show, "Educating the Public and Students using *Roadside Geology of Georgia*" will be part of the monthly meeting of the Atlanta Geological Society May 29, at 7:00 PM in the auditorium of Fernbank Museum of Natural History, 767 Clifton Rd, Atlanta, GA 30307.

The full-color 320-page guide is the 31st book in a Mountain Press Publishing series for the general reader, and has sold more than 6,000 copies. "Our goal is to take the reader to Georgia's natural wonders and explain the science that lies behind the scenery," says Witherspoon, who taught geology to K-12 students and their teachers for 17 years at DeKalb County Schools' Fernbank Science Center. Since publication, the authors have presented well over 100 programs, tying Georgia geology to topics as diverse as gold rush and settlement history, Civil War battles, fossil collecting, landscape evolution, plant communities, climate history, and specific outdoor destinations.

Roadside Geology of Georgia is used as a textbook in several colleges and universities in the state. For example, at Emory University's Oxford, GA campus, the book was used in a course connecting geology to Georgia history and geography. At the University of North Georgia at Gainesville, all students enrolled in Introductory Geology and Earth Materials courses are asked to locate an outcrop with the information contained in the book, record photos, populate descriptions in a GIS database, and write a report.

After setting the stage with some history of the Roadside Geology series, the authors will share visuals from their presentations, supplementing illustrations from the book with special uses of Google Earth, such as geologic map overlays, tours, and pull-up cross sections.

The Atlanta Geological Society meeting begins with a pizza social at 6:30. It is after museum hours, so there is no admission charge or access to exhibits.

Contact for information: Dr. Bill Witherspoon, bill@georgiarocks.us.