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PO Box 33522, Decatur GA 30033
Phone: 770-934-5644 Web: georgiarocks.us/events

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

California Geology Talk April 23
hosted by Franklin, NC Gem & Mineral Society

Geologist Dr. Bill Witherspoon, co-author of *Roadside Geology of Georgia,* will present a slide talk, “California: Geology on the Edge” on April 23. Previewing a July 11-19 trip for the public, the slide show visits California’s desert volcanoes, beautiful Mono Lake with its odd tufa spires, a dangerous fault that bisects a stadium, the glaciated terrain of Yosemite, and the sea cliffs of Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. The program introduces basic concepts of plate tectonics, as animations show how, across California, the western edge of the North American tectonic plate tangles with the Pacific plate. This produces deadly earthquakes, a little-heralded super-volcano comparable to Yellowstone, and the trap-door-like uplift of the Sierra Nevada that has captured Pacific moisture, allowing California to feed the nation and be home to 39 million people.

The talk will be followed by a book-signing of *Roadside Geology of Georgia* (Mountain Press Publishing), which “takes the general reader to Georgia’s natural wonders to explain the science that lies behind the scenery,” according to Witherspoon.

To see a photo gallery, maps, itinerary, and Q&A about the trip, visit georgiarocks.us/california.

The free event is part of Franklin Gem & Mineral Society’s monthly meeting, beginning at 6:30 PM at the west large meeting room of the Macon County Community Facilities Building, 1288 Georgia Road (US 23/441). The society operates the Franklin Gem & Mineral Museum, which it shares a website at http://www.fgmm.org.

Attendees who register for *Roadside Geology of Georgia* author events can pick up the COOL BILLION-year-old rock described at georgiarocks.us/corbin. Register at georgiarocks.us/events or “Join” in facebook.com/RoadsideGeologyGA/events. Contact for information: Dr. Bill Witherspoon, bill@georgiarocks.us.