



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Greater Avery Coalition of Galleries Expanding 2010 Season

Avery County Arts Council, Inc

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The Greater Avery County Coalition of Galleries—affectionately known as “COG”—has survived infancy, leap-frogged childhood and is careening into adulthood. Initiated last year on little more than a brainstorm, a gathering and ample consumption of wine, gallery owners and studio artists of Foscoe, Shulls Mill, Matney, Banner Elk, Valle Crucis, Linville, Pineola and Crossnore formed an alliance of friendship and business cooperation that survives and thrives today. With a desire to highlight the rich artistic talent inherent in our region, the rambunctious result was a monthly gallery ramble—called “Tour de Art”—around the curves and swerves of the High Country—from June through October.

The effort was a great success. So plans are underway to repeat the program with an expanded network of contributors and events. Chief among these will be COG’s participation in two “plein air paint-outs,” sponsored by the Avery County Arts Council. At paint-outs, artists set up in public locations where those passing by can observe the creative process as blank canvas morphs into full-color painting. These are scheduled for June 24-26 and August 28th. Artists should be at work at many COG locations.

Tours are scheduled for the 4th Saturdays of the month and include: June 26th, July 24th, August 28th, September 25th and October 23rd. Each business will welcome visitors with their own brand of hospitality, which may include beverages, music and/or in-house specials. Look for notice of additional special events in this publication this summer. Maps of the tour are available at each venue.

The eleven participating studios and galleries are:

The Linville Gallery (4004 Highway 105, Suite 2, www.linvillegallery.com),

Carlton Gallery (10360 Hwy. 105 South, www.carltonartgallery.com),

Purveyors of Art & Wildflowers Publishing (112 Aldridge Park Rd., www.artpurveyors.com) and

Kevin Beck Studio & Gallery (1590 Shulls Mill Rd., www.kevinbeck.com).

The Art Cellar Gallery (920 Shawneehaw Ave. Hwy. 184, www.artcellaronline.com)

The Cheese House Gallery (630 Shawneehaw Ave, Hwy. 184, www.averycountyartscouncil.org).

Sally Nooney Studio & Gallery (7137 Hwy. 194 South, www.sallynooney.com)

Alta Vista Gallery (2839 Broadstone Rd., www.altavistagallery.com)

87 Ruffin Street (84 Ruffin St. Linville, www.87ruffinstreet.com),

Crossnore Fine Arts Gallery (205 Johnson Ln. Crossnore, www.crossnoregallery.org).

Linville River Pottery (2180 Goose Hollow Rd. Pineola, www.linvilleriverpottery.com).

The Avery County Arts Council is a non-profit organization working to enrich the people of Avery County through meaningful arts and cultural experiences. For more than 30 years the council has helped to support school arts programs and served as a resource for artists and the community. Contact the Avery County Arts Council at 828-898-4292 or info@averycountyartscouncil.org