Welcome, New Board Member Mike Disher:

Serving both his community and beyond, new board member Mike Disher is looking forward to his new role as he strives to learn and understand the dimensions of the art community around his “hood”. His ‘hood’ is Sauk Centre, and his passion for creating stained glass art offers immense joy. Mike is a member of the 510 Art Lab in Sauk Centre is not only part of his “hood” but also a stomping ground for the local art scene.

The 510 Art Lab, a maker space that is a member-run, 501(c)3 organization that provides an inclusive learning environment striving to nurture and promote all aspects of art conveniently located on Sinclair Lewis Avenue, Sauk Centre. Mike also serves on the board for the 510 Art Lab, and he spends his free time hunkered down in his home studio or, “code for the 3rd stall in my garage,” as he calls it while he creates stained and fused glass art.

Mike’s passion for art coincides with his passion for people. “Not having grown up with any understanding of the fulfillment and camaraderie present in the art world I’m looking forward to becoming better acquainted with what’s going on and connecting with fellow artists.” As a board member working within the art community, he hopes to provide opportunities that inspire others to participate in grants that enable them to progress their crafts,” said Mike.

Inspired to Serve on the Board:
As he settles into his new role representing Todd County on the FWAC board Mike reflects on what inspired him to serve on the board. He learned about the Five Wings Art Council after visiting with a fellow member of the 510 Art Lab about her felting and fabric artwork. Through this conversation, Mike learned about a grant she received from FWAC, and the rest was meant to be. “I was totally unaware grants were available for artists and this kind of stuck in the back of my mind that I’d like to learn more about that someday. Then I noticed a call for members from my county a while back and began looking into it.”

Learn More About the 510 Art Lab
www.510artlab.com

Who: Mike Disher
Represents: Todd County

About: Mike Disher is a retired, self-taught Information Technology Director. He graduated from Redwood Falls High School and Mankato Area Vocational Technical Institute with a diploma in accounting, and currently lives on Big Sauk Lake with his wife Debbie. Mike’s passion for stained and warm glass arts germinated during COVID. He also enjoys spending time with his kids and grandkids and serving the Lord.
Overview of Board Member Roles & Responsibilities

Board members are responsible for setting policies, and approving the various grant programs that the Five Wings Art Council administers. Board members and FWAC staff work together to review and make decisions regarding grant applications submitted to the council. Additionally, Five Wings Arts Council members have the opportunity to also represent the council at various arts events in the region and state.

Council members are a volunteer-based commitment and meet monthly, (except in July and December) and serve three-year terms. Members are reimbursed for meals and mileage associated with Five Wings Arts Council business. Ideal candidates are respected members of their communities and have a history of participating in, advocating for, and/or supporting the arts.

Anyone interested in serving the arts in this capacity can submit a letter of interest including a resume to Five Wings Arts Council, PO Box 118, Staples, MN 56479, or e-mail Mark Turner at mark.fwac@arvig.net or Vicki Chepulis at vicki.fwac@arvig.net.

Current Vacancies:
Currently, the Five Wings Art Council is seeking board members from Todd county.