

Carol Spaid began sewing as a child, first learning to quilt and then making clothing in her local 4-H program. As an adult, she continued to sew clothing for herself and her children and make crafts for gift giving.

Always the entrepreneur, Carol began searching for projects that could help her earn extra income. In 2012, she began making mittens from upcycled wool/blend sweaters purchased from thrift stores. Working with the felted wool is something she greatly enjoys as she crafts the gently-worn sweaters into one-of-a-kind warm, soft mittens. The process of giving an old sweater this new life has led her to name her mittens "Gracies," signifying a second chance.

She offers her mittens, and a variety of products made from decorative papers at the Paradigm Gallery and through her home business Thistle n Thread.

Spaid's other hobbies and interests include photography, gardening and playing mountain and hammered dulcimers. Spending time with other artists and musicians helps foster her creativity.