



JANE MUNRO GARDNER
Librarian - Historian

Jane Munro Gardner was born in Evanston, Illinois 78 years ago. She moved with her family to Colorado in the early 1920s. Since her father was employed by the Public Service Company of Colorado, the family moved to different areas around the state. Jane graduated from Golden High School in 1932 and for the next three years she attended nursing school and graduated from Presbyterian Hospital in 1936. The following year Jane Munro and Russell Gardner were married, and spent the next several years raising their five children.

Being a strong supporter for an Arvada Library, she was employed in the McIlvoy House, 7307 Grandview Avenue, in 1951. The house and grounds were given to the City of Arvada by Clemancy McIlvoy in 1919 for public use. This was the first separate building to be used for a library. When the Arvada Regional Library was built in 1966 at 8555 West 57th Avenue, Jane was one of its first librarians.

Jane was a charter member of the Arvada Historical Society in 1972. She gives slide programs, walking tours and continues to add to her wealth of Arvada stories. She has contributed to the three Arvada Histories, was president of the Society in 1981-1982, and became Arvada's 1989 Woman of the Year.

When the Jefferson County Historical Commission was organized in 1974, to prepare for Colorado's Centennial in 1976, Jane was appointed by the County Commissioners to the first 15-member Board of Directors, and is currently Chairman of JCHC. She wrote two chapters for "From Scratch," a book published by the Commission and is writing the Indian Hills material for another Commission publication, "Jefferson County Place Names Directory." She has been a valuable asset to Jefferson County by making a career of preserving the past and present for the future.

She was elected to the Jefferson County Hall of Fame in 1993.