

## Playing the Piano Again

*By Joan Mish*

I started doing things around the house that I have put off ever since I moved to Denver. My good friends from Wisconsin all pitched in and bought me an electric piano and gave me a farewell party. I had to sell or actually gave my own piano away before I moved here. I didn't think it would fit in the living room.

Then an old friend I used to play piano with called me a couple of weeks ago and played one of her favorite songs from years ago. She challenged me to get back on the piano and play her a song in a few weeks! It has been fun to start playing again. I was afraid my arthritic hands would make it very difficult but someone told me it would help my hands. My hands rarely do hurt unless I am reaching too far over the keyboards.

So after practicing almost a half an hour a day I am getting more confident about our date on the phone this Friday afternoon. And I discovered another piano friend had given me a book with some easy jazz favorites and it had a CD that came with it. So I am practicing one of my favorite songs in this book with professional folks to accompany me: "Don't Get Around Much Any More." Now isn't that appropriate!