

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)

THE ENQUIRER

Last Updated: 7:19 am | Sunday, April 1, 2007

Daughter revives humanitarian league

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

CRESCENT SPRINGS -

The Humanitarian League, a 47-year-old organization that has been dormant for a number of years, is being resurrected by its founder's daughter. It will be hosting several meetings and events this year culminating in a Humanitarian of the Year Gala honoring an individual's humanitarian accomplishments.

In his inaugural address, President Kennedy described a new frontier where the United States "will deal with unsolved problems of peace and war, unconquered pockets of ignorance and prejudice, unanswered questions of poverty and surplus."

That same year, Northern Kentuckian Ethel Voss Palmer was inspired to solve those same problems in her corner of the world. She founded the Humane Education Auxiliary. She died in 1994 after a long illness. On her deathbed, she asked her daughter, Jan Palmer Malley, to take up her cause.

"My mother was sick for several years, and as time went by my focus was on her, my children and my business," said Crescent Springs resident Malley, who, along with her husband Chip, owns the Little Red School House preschool.

"The next 10 years, I would tell people about her and her crusade to make the world a kinder and gentler place, and help those less fortunate and in need, but no one picked up on this premise and got it moving."

In 2005, Malley decided it was time to pick up her mother's torch. She held her first meeting in November 2005 and rechristened the group the Humanitarian League.

"From that day on our momentum has not ceased," she said. The group now has 40 members and a board of directors to help steer it.

Diane Kidd, owner of interior design firm Kidd Interiors, joined the board because she wanted hands-on involvement with those she was helping.

Kidd said she was drawn to the group's work with children and animals.

"I think we've become such a society of trying to get ahead or keeping our head above water that we're neglecting a lot of our basic parent concerns," said Kidd.

In September, the organization raised \$40,000 by hosting a "Diva Day," an event where women gather to receive a spa-like treatment. The money was donated to the Kenton County Animal Shelter.

On May 19, the group will hold a Salsa Night, probably at Malley's home, to teach the dance. The cost of admission will be a bottle of wine to be auctioned off at the gala.

The league will focus on two projects. Beginning in the fall of 2007, it will award two \$1,000 scholarships to area students nominated by teachers and peer groups for showing a humanitarian spirit. The other will be an anti-bullying program to implement in schools.

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#) | Copyright 2007, *Enquirer.com*