

**Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation
2019 Annual Report**



“Father of the Green Revolution”

Message from the President:

As I reflect on 2019, I view it as a year of aligning our annual goals to fit the long-range planning laid out in our strategic plan. The board's annual goals need to embody The Borlaug Foundation's mission and vision as well. We accomplished our preservation mission by replacing the roof of the Birthplace home, restoring it to its original wood shingle state. The educational part of our mission was met through the creation and implementation of a third Inspire Day, one created with the help of NICC for high school students. We have also taken steps to enhance our outreach and communication by establishing an annual newsletter delivered via mail, email and downloads from our website. Finally, it was a year that challenged us with the loss of the bridge due to flooding. However, this led us to take positive steps to stabilize the stream bank with help from NRCS; from challenge springs growth. We look forward to 2020 with optimism and excitement.

Mission:

The Mission of the Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation is the preservation of Dr. Borlaug's birthplace and boyhood homes and inspiration, engagement and empowerment through educational programming.

Vision:

“Honoring the Man, Strengthening the Legacy”

I'm looking forward to all that is in store for the coming year. There many initiatives in the pipeline. We are fortunate to have a great group of volunteer board members. Each board member has a specialty that they bring to this organization. I am honored to work with these dedicated individuals.

Laura Schmauss

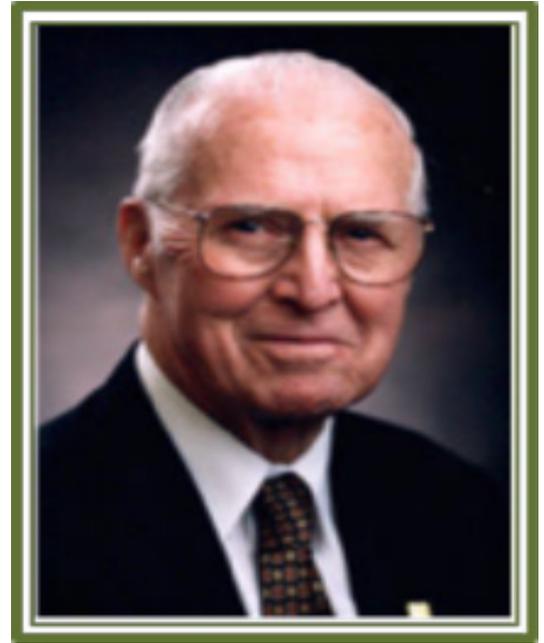
NBHF President

About Us

The Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation is a non-profit corporation with an all-volunteer board dedicated to the preservation of the Birthplace and Boyhood home of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug (1914-2009), where he established his values and work ethic.

The Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation is committed to preserving the Birthplace and Boyhood farms and promoting Dr. Borlaug's lifetime achievements and philosophy by welcoming a diversity of local, national, and international visitors to the farm, through education programs such as the Fall and Spring Inspire Education Days and the Education Residency Program, and by hosting agricultural, environmental and humanitarian events on the Borlaug farmstead.

For over a half century, the scientific and humanitarian achievements of Dr. Norman Borlaug (Nobel Peace Prize laureate, winner of the Congressional Gold Medal and Presidential Medal of Freedom, and recipient of over 50 honorary doctoral degrees) kept starvation at bay for millions of people in third world countries. Gregg Easterbrook wrote of Borlaug, "Though barely known in the country of his birth, elsewhere in the world Norman Borlaug is widely considered to be among the leading Americans of our age."



Welcoming Visitors to the Farm

Over the last decade the Foundation has restored and preserved the original structures located at the "Boyhood Farm" and adjoining "Birthplace" properties of Dr. Borlaug, in hopes of attracting visitors and learners of all ages to the rural Iowa farmstead. Structures at the properties currently include the houses, barns, a machine shed, chicken coop, and even the one-room schoolhouse Dr. Borlaug had attended in his youth. Visitors will find everything from a stand of trees once planted by the young Borlaug himself; to wild prairie flowers in the summertime; to informational signage, complete with QR codes, that were added in recent years alongside the walking path that interweaves the properties.

A wide spectrum of visitors – from students and educators, to agriculturalists and legislators – traversed the Northeast Iowa countryside to experience the Borlaug farmstead. This year we were honored to host Iowa Secretary of Ag, Mike Naig, Dr. Brian Steffenson from the University of Minnesota, former Iowa State Senator Allen Borlaug and Jane Bloomingdale Iowa State Legislator.

Education Programs

The Foundation continues to host Inspire Education Days for area fifth graders, bringing students to the Borlaug farmstead from schools in approximately a 45-mile radius. At Inspire Education Day, educators incorporate interdisciplinary components of education – ranging from science, to global studies, to math and even music. Students also spend time learning about Dr. Borlaug's life and accomplishments. This year a third Inspire Day focused on high school students was added in connection with NICC.



For fourteen years, Fall Inspire Education Day has taken place in September featuring a strong partnership with educators and students from Iowa State University. Eight years ago, the Foundation added a Spring Inspire Education Day as well, which takes place in May and features a strong partnership with Luther College educators and students. Foundation members collaborate with the college to provide a formative experience for those who will begin student teaching come fall, while also keeping the spirit and educational legacy of Dr. Borlaug alive for even more youth.

September 2019 marked the fifth time area students at the Borlaug farmstead on the Fall Inspire Education Day packaged meals through the non-profit Outreach organization. The students packaged over 6,000 meals. While many of these pre-packaged meals stay in Iowa, they are also sent to places like South Africa, Haiti, and the Philippines, as well as New Mexico, to support the Navajo nation.

The Foundation also hosts Borlaug-Thompson Interns each summer in partnership with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University. The Borlaug-Thompson Internship and Scholarship is one of the most prestigious internships offered by the college, enabling undergraduate students to serve as informal ambassadors to Northeast Iowa, develop projects and curricula to promote the legacy and values of Dr. Norman Borlaug, and make professional recommendations to the Foundation board, the ISU Extension, and the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Resources and Financial Management

Financial Report for NBHF for 2019

INCOME

CRP \$14,281

Donations/Capital Campaign \$82,950

Grant \$400

Annual Drive \$2,300

Other Income/Rent \$13,493

Total \$113,424

(Other income includes book sales, fundraisers-wheat & t-shirts) EXPENSES

Insurance, Taxes \$6,319

Operating Expense \$6,057

Supplies/Maintenance/Misc. \$7,874

Events & Capital Expenditures \$19,304

Total \$39,556

Projected Budget for NBHF for 2020

INCOME:

CRP	\$12,781
Rent	\$1,000
Grant	\$3,000
Donations	\$2,500
Other Income	\$2,500
Annual Drive	\$15,000
Capital Campaign	\$40,000

Total	\$76,781
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EXPENSES:

Advertise	\$1,100
Alarm system	\$550
Food package	\$2,000
Grounds maintenance	\$3,250
Inspire day	\$1,000
Insurance	\$3,000
Professional services	\$410
Property taxes	\$1,800
Repairs	\$1,000
Supplies & Misc	\$4,250
Technology maintenance	\$1,000
Utilities	\$3,000
Website	\$250
Capital Project	\$30,000

Total	\$52,610
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*Note that the farm CRP and rent do not financially support the annual operating costs of NBHF. Donations are necessary to operate and for capital improvements.

Looking Back

The Borlaug Foundation is continually working on living out our mission of the preservation of Dr. Borlaug's birthplace and boyhood homes and inspiration, engagement and empowerment through educational programming. This mission played out when the 2019 goals were determined.

- Replacing the boyhood home roof.
- Adding an additional Inspire Day in coordination with NICC.
- Establishing an annual newsletter.
- Panning and fundraising for the creation of parking and a picnic and restroom facility at each farm.

With the dedication of our board, I'm happy to note that the first three initiatives have been reached and great progress has been made for the facility improvements on the Birthplace and Boyhood farms. All bids and blueprints have been finalized for the parking and picnic/restroom project as well as the start to our fundraising campaign. The trailer home that previously was located at the boyhood farm has been sold and removed in preparation for the new facilities which would be located in the same area. A grant will be submitted in January 2020 for financial assistance with this project. If all goes as planned looking for a 2020 completion.

Other notable happenings this past year include adding Dennis Meirick, a Protivin native, as a new board member. In April, The Passage to India event, which is held annually in Peoria, IL, honored Dr. Borlaug with the Banyan Tree Award, which was presented to The Borlaug Foundation. The Banyan Tree Award is given to notable individuals that have made a large impact on the country of India.

The goals established in 2019 are coordinated to make progress on our strategic long term goals that were established in 2017 with the assistance of Julie Huiskamp, Ph.D. The strategic long term goals the foundation established are as follows:

- **Partnerships**-Cultivate new and existing collaborations that will result in authentic and sustainable growth for the Foundation.
- **People**-Focus energy and resources to ensure exemplary leadership, staff, volunteers, and patrons united in active support of the Foundation and its goals.
- **Posterity**-Embrace the mission and values of the Foundation in relevant and positive ways to ensure that Dr. Borlaug's legacy continues to inspire and incite to action.
- **Programs**-Champion programs consistent with Dr. Borlaug's focus on youth activities and education and expand programming aimed at responsible farming practices and raising awareness of global food challenges.
- **Properties**-Preserve and enhance the Borlaug properties to support programming, encourage tourism and shared use, honor farming as a way of life, and provide testament to the history of Dr. Borlaug and his family.



The roof was replaced on the birthplace home using period appropriate wood shingles. This is Phase 1 of the home restoration process. Upcoming plans include the interior restoration.

We were excited to have Amanda Gorzney, as our Borlaug-Thompson intern this past summer. Amanda is a junior at Iowa State where her major is Global Resource Systems and Agricultural Communications. She is originally from Calamus, Iowa. Notable activities for Amanda included using her creativity to design marketing materials, organizing projects, the establishment of Member Mondays on Facebook and enhancing the Foundations online presence.



This year, long time secretary and founding board member Ken Becker passed away. He served NBHF for 18 years as board secretary. The Foundation is grateful for the time and talent that Ken donated during his term. He will be missed by many.



In July the Borlaug Foundation hosted its third annual neighborhood picnic. It's a great time for fellowship and updating the neighbors on the NBHF plans for the future.

Fifth Annual Adult Ag Institute was held July 18th with the assistance of NRCS, Howard Soil & Water and Iowa State. Keynote speakers discussed watersheds and soil health. Iowa State presented a video production on Norm.



Signage was added to Norm's Birthplace Farm to assist visitors in locating the farm. The new sign reflects the sign that Justin Kerian made for the Boyhood Farm for his Eagle Scout project in 2017.



Above: From left to right, cousins related to Norman include, Bill Reed-NBHF Board member, Julie Borlaug and Vicki Grube-NBHF Board member.

Left: Governor Kim Reynolds addressing attendees at The World Food Prize.

Annually, representatives from the NBHF attended the Iowa Hunger Summit and The World Food Prize located in Des Moines, which takes place annually in October. This year Bill Reed, Vicki Grube and Tom Spindler (not pictured) attended events that were held throughout the week.

Looking Forward

The Borlaug Foundation has big plans for 2020 which include the addition of restroom/picnic facilities at both the Boyhood and Birthplace farms along with designated parking areas. The estimated cost of the project is over \$100,000. In order to make this a reality, the NBHF is applying for a grant due in the beginning of 2020 that would cover 75% of the total project cost, the remaining 25% will come from our capital campaign donations. The capital campaign was kicked off in the fall of 2019 in anticipation of this project.

Finance: Funds that are received through land rent and government programs aren't sufficient to cover our basic operating expenses. The foundation needs donations in order to support our ongoing initiatives. Estimated annual operating expenses run approximately \$22,000 and annual income from rent and CRP is under \$14,000. In 2018 we implemented an annual donor drive to help offset the difference.

Programs:

- Last year a third inspire day was offered for high school students. This inspire day was in collaboration with NICC. The plan is to expand this third inspire day to include more area students.
- The Foundation will be starting an Emeritus Designation Program to honor past Borlaug board members that made a notable contribution to the organization.

We look forward to welcoming our 2020 Borlaug-Thompson intern, Ellie Foelske, to the farm in May.

Notable Upcoming Events:

This coming year marks the 50th anniversary of Dr. Borlaug receiving his Noble Peace Prize. The foundation is planning festivities to celebrate.

Additional 2020 Goals:

- In 2020 our focus will be on replacing the bridge on the Boyhood property that was washed out in early 2019. A grant was received from Howard County Soil & Water to preform creek bank erosion mitigation.
- The addition of interpretive signage in the Birthplace barn, school house and Boyhood home. In addition to the signs, a digital wall will be added in a section of the barn. This will allow the foundation to update information as needed to communicate to our visitors.
- A focus on updating our website will also be a priority. The plan is to add video tours of both properties.
- Initial planning will also take place to form a more robust charitable giving program.



Borlaug Learning & Educational Center:

The Foundation board envisions a Borlaug Education Outreach Center, located in the barn at the Birthplace farm. Stage 1 of the barn restoration was completed in 2018. Stage 2 of the project will include adding restroom facilities, electrical updates for use of technology in the barn. Also included are an exhibition hall and a learning lab. The Center would serve as a permanent home for the Foundation and its education programs. The Foundation is in the midst of a capital campaign to raise funds for this important project. This Work Needs Your Help

Make A Donation: The Foundation board has set the long-term endowment goal at \$7,000,000. Interest earned on this goal would fund a full-time Borlaug Education Residency Program, Borlaug Farm Preservation and Maintenance Program in perpetuity.

Please contact Cresco Chamber at 563-547-3434, 101 2nd Ave SW, Cresco, IA, email nbhf@normanborlaug.org or visit our website at www.normanborlaug.org to make a donation in support of this important work.

All contributions are appreciated; contributors of \$1,000 or more will receive an artist signed limited edition print of Dr. Borlaug's Boyhood Farm (shown in image above).

Volunteer: The work of the Foundation is made possible by the dedication of hundreds of volunteers. Whether your passion is yard work, guiding tours, accounting, law, graphic design, web design and social media, or public relations, we have a need for you.

Please contact Tom Spindler at 563-379-7683 to find out more about volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

Thank You to Our Supporters

The Foundation is grateful for the annual assistance we receive from numerous organizations and individuals who volunteer their time and talents to protect and promote the legacy of Dr. Norman Borlaug and to the many who have helped us financially through their generous donations.

Governance

Founding Board of Directors: Donald Arendt, Ken Becker, Ted Behrens, Steve Johnson, Rex Kleckner, Lori Moore, John (Jack) Thomson, Tony Tremmel, and Joyce Vagts.

Foundation Advisors: Ted Behrens, Bill Borlaug, Henry Elwood, Jeanie Borlaug Laube, and Matthew Behrens.

Current Board of Directors: Laura Schmauss (President), Mark Johnson (Vice President), Shirley Sovereign (Secretary), Gary Gassett (Treasurer), Tom Spindler (Past President), Vickie Grube, Todd Knobloch, Maury Kramer, Joanne Lane, Bill Reed, Dale Vagts, Mary Reicks, Harold Flatland, Neil Shaffer, Christina Riessen, Ted Wilson, Nicole Havlik and Dennis Meirick.