

**Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation  
2016 Annual Report**



*"Father of the Green Revolution"*

### **Message from the president:**

The goal of the Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation (NBHF) is to preserve the birthplace and boyhood home of Dr. Norman Borlaug (1914-2009). This is where he established his roots, values and work ethic. The foundation was formed in 2000 and is a non-profit dedicated to promoting Dr. Borlaug's lifetime achievements, keeping alive his visions on food security, sustainable farming practices and the fight against hunger, through educational programming. Where he grew up played an important role in shaping the individual that Norman Borlaug would become.

### **In Dr. Borlaug's Own Words**

*"I realize how fortunate I was to have been born, to have grown to manhood, and to have received my early education in rural Iowa. That heritage provided me with a set of values that has been an invaluable guide to me in my work around the world. These values...have been of great strength in times of despair in my struggle to assist in improving the standards of living of rural people everywhere."*

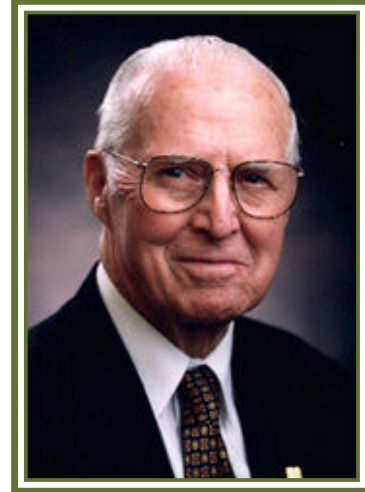
Norman Borlaug was truly an amazing individual, and as a foundation we hope to pass along his legacy and vision. By visiting the farms where he grew up it's easy to envision what it must have been like for a young farm boy to grow up here and better understand the things he must have experienced. It's humbling to see, that despite his meager beginning, how much he was able to accomplish in his life. We encourage you to come and visit so you can experience it for yourself; it will really give you a different perspective.

Laura Schmauss  
Current 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 boyhood farm 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 Doctorate 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

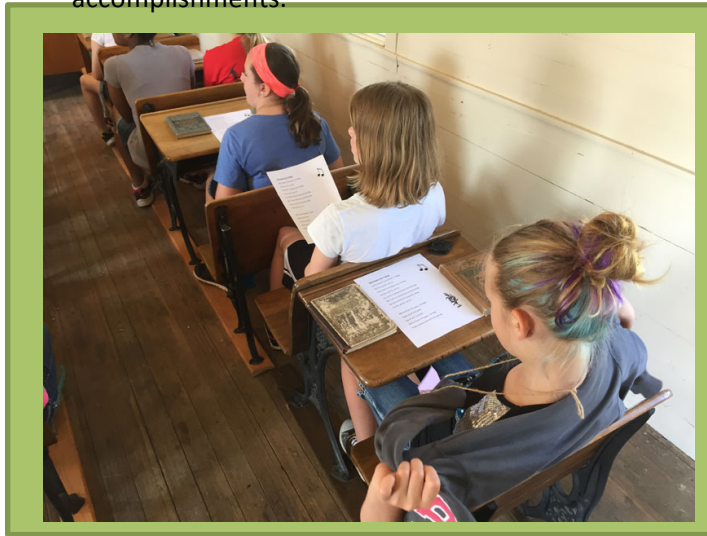
Over the last decade the Foundation has restored and preserved the original structures located at the "Boyhood Farm" and adjoining "Birthplace" properties of Dr. Borlaug, in hopes of attracting visitors and learners of all ages to the rural Iowa farmstead. Structures at the properties currently include 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 set 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.

## Education Programs

The Foundation continues to host two Inspire Education Days each year, bringing as many area fifth graders as possible and even groups of high school students to the Borlaug farmstead from schools within about 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.



For eleven years, Fall Inspire Education Day has taken place in September featuring a strong partnership with educators and students from Iowa State University. Six 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.

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.

## Hosting Agricultural, Environmental, and Humanitarian Events

In August of 2016, we were pleased to host Jill Clapperton at our third annual Sustainable Farm Institute. Jill is a world-renowned researcher, international lecturer and advocate of farm practices that promote soil health. She shared with the attendees her research of new crops, rotations, and products that create healthy productive soils as well as technology to help farmers assess soil fertility, plant nutrition and soil microbial activity in real time.

**Renowned soil scientist**

**Jill Clapperton**

**Comes to Northeast Iowa!**



September 2016 marked the second time area students at the Borlaug farmstead on the Fall Inspire Education Day packaged meals through the non-profit Meals from the Heartland 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 a Navajo nation.

## **Increased Community Involvement**

The Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation is proud to report a general increase in volunteerism, as well as our new members currently serving on the Foundation's all-volunteer Board of Directors.

The Foundation, now commemorating their 17th year, is also proud to report an increase in collaboration with other existing entities, including:

- Iowa State University
- Luther College
- University of Iowa
- The Norman Borlaug Harvest Fest
- Howard-Winneshiek Community School District
- Meals from the Heartland
- Outreach Food Packaging
- World Food Prize Foundation
- Midwest Bible Mission
- Cresco Kiwanis
- Silos & Smokestacks
- Cresco Chamber of Commerce
- Iowa Museum Association
- Iowa Corn Growers



## Resources and Financial Management

### Financial Report for NBHF for 2016

#### INCOME

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| CRP                      | \$12,781 |
| Contributions**          | \$ 7,558 |
| Grant                    | \$ 3,000 |
| Other Income/Fundraisers | \$ 1,615 |

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|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| Total | \$24,954 |
|-------|----------|

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

#### EXPENSES

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Insurance, Taxes              | \$ 6,811 |
| Operating Expense             | \$ 5,967 |
| Supplies/Maintenance/Misc.    | \$ 2,330 |
| Events & Capital Expenditures | \$ 7,548 |

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|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| Total | \$22,656 |
|-------|----------|

### Projected Budget\* for NBHF for 2017

#### INCOME:

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| CRP             | \$12,781 |
| Grant           | \$ 3,000 |
| Contributions** | \$ 2,500 |
| Other Income    | \$ 2,000 |

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|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| Total | \$20,281 |
|-------|----------|

#### EXPENSES:

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Insurance and Taxes  | \$ 7,000 |
| Operating Expenses   | \$ 5,500 |
| Supplies/Maintenance | \$ 6,500 |

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|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| Total | \$19,000 |
|-------|----------|

\*Budgets do not include the Farm Institute Income and Expenses

\*\*Contributions include Memorials and Donations

## Looking Back



Reviewing 2016 there have been some exciting happenings for the NBHF. A new website was created, complete with resources for teachers including curriculum. We were excited to have Rebecca Nellis as our Borlaug-Thompson intern this past summer. She worked to develop a sticker search for kids to tour the farm, worked countless hours tending the flower and vegetable gardens at the boyhood farm, established the NBHF with the Iowa Museum Association, are just a few of the items accomplished by Nellis.

The NBHF was honored to receive the Outstanding Preservation in Ag Award from Silos & Smokestacks. The Borlaug story has reached new audiences this year with featuring stories in Our Iowa Magazine, Northeast Iowa Food and Fitness, a promo video created by the Iowa Cultural Society that was distributed via Facebook and presenting at the National Collegiate 4-H Conference. With the assistance of R.R.S Stewart our application has been submitted to the State of Iowa Registry of Historic Sites. To end 2016 the NBHF has started a strategic planning committee to address the future mission and vision of the NBHF.

## Looking Forward

Finance: If no major expenses come forward, we should be approximately \$1,000 in the positive.

Programs: We anticipate continued growth in the numbers of people visiting the Borlaug boyhood farm, and are implementing a more rigorous attendance tracking system to keep up with this increase.

We look forward to welcoming our 2017 Borlaug-Thompson intern, Kayleigh Koch, to the farm in May. We're also excited about having 2016 Borlaug-Thompson intern Becca Nellis back to continue her work from last year.

### Notable Upcoming Events:

The Spring and Fall Inspire Days for elementary school students are scheduled for May and September. The Fall Inspire Day will again involve students in alleviating hunger through Outreach.

Plans are under way for a fourth Annual Sustainability Institute in August.

Grant money has been received to restore the barn on the birthplace farm. Renovations to begin summer of 2017.

Dr. Bill Faller's second bronze sculpture of the world will be installed this coming summer.

Justin Kerian will be working on this Eagle Scout project, which consists of installing signage visible from the road for the Borlaug Farm.

Plans for 2017 also includes the painting of the chicken coop, granary, machine shed and pump house on the boyhood farm.

RAGBRAI will also be heading through Cresco this July. Plans are starting for that event. We're anticipating many visitors that day.

### **Borlaug Learning & Educational Center:**



The Foundation board envisions a Borlaug Education Outreach Center, to be built on 10 acres reserved for development on Dr. Borlaug's 103 acre boyhood farm. The Center would consist of an exhibition hall to display residency work and Borlaug archives, a board room and offices, classroom, learning lab, and small library/study for students and education residency participants, studio, living quarters, kitchen and dining facilities for events, public rest rooms, and a presentation/multimedia room.

The Center would serve as a permanent home for the Foundation and its education programs. The Foundation is currently working on the logistics 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SW, Cresco, IA or email [nbhf@normanborlaug.org](mailto:nbhf@normanborlaug.org), to make a donation in support of this important work.

All contributions are appreciated; contributors of \$1000 or more will receive an artist signed limited edition print of Dr. Borlaug's Boyhood Farm.

**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.

**Wish Lists** The Borlaug Boyhood Farm has a proud history of working with the Boy Scouts of America as a partner on Eagle Scout projects, including the installation of a bridge over a wetland swale on the property.



## Thank You to Our Supporters

### **Donors**

### **Volunteers**

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.

### **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), Ken Becker (Secretary), John (Jack) Thomson and Gary Gassett (Co-Treasurers), Barb Schwamman (Past President), Tom Spindler (Past President), Vickie Grube, Todd Knobloch, Maury Kramer, Joanne Lane, Bill Reed, Steve Johnson, Dale Vagts, Shirley Sovereign, Mary Reicks and Harold Flatland.