



// Practical Farmers of Iowa // 2013 Annual Report

*“Thanks for being one of the best organizations that I have ever been a part of.”*

# “A Great Thing Going”



**PRACTICAL farmers**  
*of Iowa*  
working together, always learning



*Jim Keitel, Lost Nation*

## DEAR SUPPORTER:

In this annual report, you will read about Practical Farmers' significant accomplishments in 2013. We will present what this organization means to our members along with strong evidence that Practical Farmers is effective – all in our members' words.

As one member reports: ***“Practical Farmers of Iowa has a great thing going here.”***

We challenge you to find an organization that is more productive for its size. In 2013, Practical Farmers presented:

- an annual conference that more than 650 attended;
- 60 on-farm events attended by 3,500;
- 19 farminars (online webinars) viewed by more than 7,400;
- And much more.

In total, Practical Farmers held 140 events in 2013. All of this activity serves a major purpose: to strengthen farms and communities through farmer-led investigation and information sharing. We could not accomplish all this without PFI's farmer leaders - 340 of them in 2013 - who are recognized on pages 9-10. Those volunteers served on the Board of Directors and committees. They held field days and pasture walks.

They conducted on-farm research, demonstration and record keeping projects with Practical Farmers. They secured press on various issues. They were featured in media stories, and much more.

***“I am proud to be a member.”***

***“Through PFI I learned to think more holistically.”***

***“I have the PFI mission statement on my fridge. PFI gives me hope.”***

It is so rewarding to hear quotes like these from our members! It is no wonder that this organization is growing so rapidly. Our membership increased from 1,812 to more than 2,500 in 2013.

We are grateful for your commitment to Practical Farmers and to an agriculture that encourages community, cooperation, creativity – and a viable future for generations to come.

Thank you!

**Dan Wilson**  
President of the Board  
Seven Wilson Farm, Paullina

**Teresa Opheim**  
Executive Director  
Practical Farmers, Ames

## 2013 FARMINARS

- Managing cover crops
- Cover crop options for prevented planting acres in Iowa
- How to hire farm laborers, by the books
- Network with other PFI beginning farmer trainees and trainers
- Cover crop decision-making tools
- Vegetable irrigation basics for beginning farmers
- Selecting the right genetics for a grass-based system
- Feed alternatives to corn and soybeans
- Considerations for year-round employment for vegetable farms
- Explore the profit potential of high tunnels
- Specialty crop insurance: one farmer's experience and vision
- Cover crop basics for corn and soybeans
- Selecting corn hybrids and soybean varieties
- Yeomans plow and keyline design
- Pricing and marketing produce at farm stands and wholesale to grocers
- Beginning a crop and livestock farm: equipment
- Poultry enterprise budgets: Know your expenses and keep your profits
- Drought recovery grazing: Ideas to get through the winter and plan for a resilient farm
- Production in high tunnels: Salad greens, microgreens and more
- Profitable direct-to-consumer meat and dairy opportunities
- Farmers as employers: Legal responsibilities

The portraits presented in this annual report are all members who have had PFI signs installed on their land. In 2013, PFI staffer Marc Strobbe installed 120 signs in more than half of Iowa's counties, to increase the visibility of Practical Farmers. These signs are passed by more than 44 million cars per year.

**On the Cover (from left to right):** Jodi and Jeremy Peak and family, Waukon; Jim Fink, Vinton; and Kim Steele-Blaire, Keosauqua

Practical Farmers conducted an extensive evaluation effort in 2013. We now have feedback from 76 percent of our members. Among the questions we asked in our member survey: What are your primary farm goals? Has Practical Farmers helped?

PFI members report highly diverse farm goals, including:

- **“Build strong relationships with other farmers with similar operations”**
- **“Improve water quality and top soil”**
- **“Erosion control”**
- **“Help the farm pay for itself in two years”**
- **“Hold soil in place and improve it”**
- **“Income for later in life”**
- **“Keep good records for my first season”**
- **“Share lifestyle with children”**

91 percent report that Practical Farmers has helped them achieve their goals. How did PFI help? Here’s a sampling from PFI members:

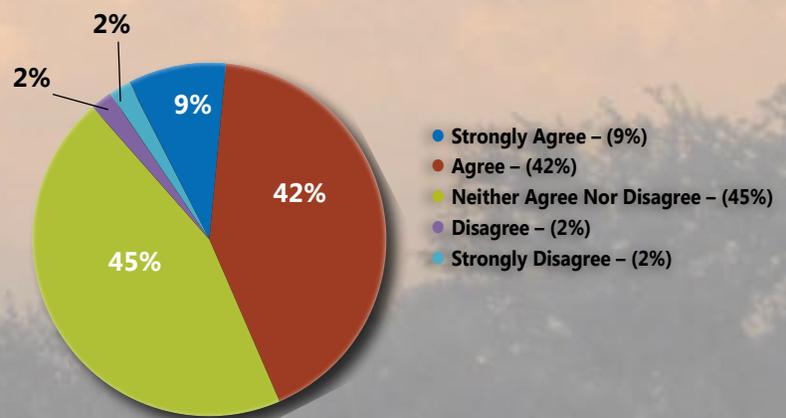
- **“connected us with other farmers”**
- **“I got ideas at the conference and discussion list”**
- **“newsletter articles generate ideas”**
- **“talking with other farmers helped us improve”**
- **“PFI staff required us to actually process and look at some data”**
- **“The listserv has provided learning and sales/buying opportunities as well as helped us with pricing”**
- **“PFI provides very helpful mentors”**
- **“reading the research articles”**
- **“pasture walks”**
- **“Farminars. I like that I am able to participate in them by asking questions and if I can’t participate I am able to watch them when I have time”**

For many members, goals on profitability, efficiency and stewardship are paramount, so we asked in the member survey how specifically Practical Farmers has helped in these areas.

87 percent who have been members more than one year report they have increased their profitability as a result of their participation with Practical Farmers. For example, members report PFI helped them:

- **“Decrease purchased inputs”**
- **“Develop a better feeding plan for our hogs”**
- **“Start new enterprises”**
- **“Expand my customer base”**
- **“Learn about CSA profitability [community supported agriculture]”**
- **“Get started on making a transition plan”**

**PROFITABILITY**



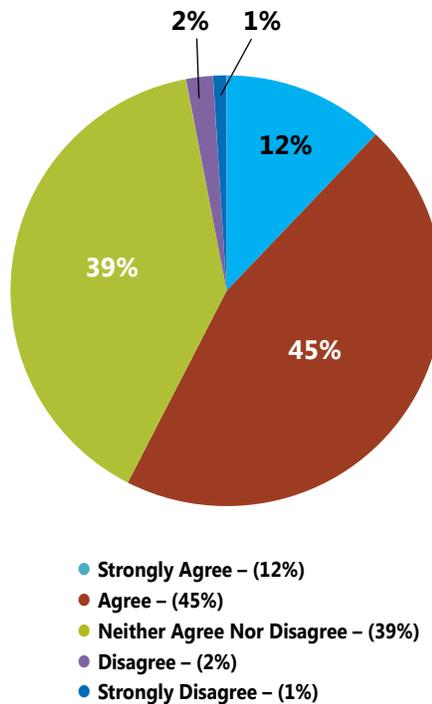
*Philip and Martin Kramer, Algona*

## PRACTICAL FARMERS HELPS FARM EFFICIENCY

57 percent who have been members more than one year report that their participation with Practical Farmers has helped them become more efficient on their farms. For example, members report Practical Farmers has helped them:

- *“Reduce energy use”*
- *“Keep better records”*
- *“Increase efficiency in the field”*
- *“Add rye and a legume as third crops to cut costs and improve efficiency”*
- *“Learn time savers in processing of vegetables”*
- *“More efficiently use the forage resources on my farm”*

### EFFICIENCY



## ENCOURAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

Practical Farmers has a network of 1,500 beginning farmers in Iowa alone. Some of these beginners want to farm; others have already gotten started. Some are young and full of energy; others have some life experiences, resources and skills. Our Savings Incentive Program helps these beginning farmers be successful with their business startups. Those enrolled attend events to learn about farming and create a network of farmer supporters, work with a mentor one-on-one, check in with staff to make sure they are on track and create a business plan that is reviewed by financial experts. All while the participants save money, which PFI matches after two years.

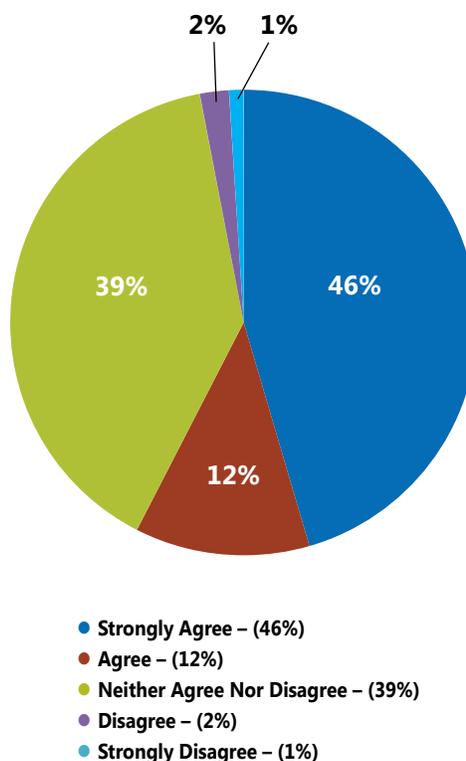
Other offerings for beginning farmers: a website that links those seeking land with those who have land for rent or sale (findafarmer.net), a way to get on-farm experience (Labor4Learning), an annual retreat and many farminars. Perhaps most importantly: The beginners are developing a community of support and friendships with each other and more experienced farmers that will last a lifetime.

## PRACTICAL FARMERS HELPS FARMERS BECOME BETTER STEWARDS

58 percent who have been members more than one year report that their participation with Practical Farmers has helped them improve stewardship on their farms. For example, members report Practical Farmers has helped them:

- *“Take a holistic look at crop production and protecting the environment”*
- *“Increase use of cover crops and greatly helped with the stewardship of my farm”*
- *“Improve stewardship on my farm through cover crops and no-till”*
- *“Reduce spring tillage and decrease erosion during rain events”*

### STEWARDSHIP



### Members speak on PFI's beginning farmer programming:

- *“The Savings Incentive Program is helping us save money.”*
- *“The Savings Incentive Program has helped move us forward on almost all levels.”*
- *“Our mentors have been a great resource.”*
- *“I was able to be a PFI Labor4Learning trainee. That alone has built a strong community for me.”*

### SAVINGS INCENTIVE PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

- 74 beginning farmers enrolled
- Participants saved \$93,000
- Seven received payouts and purchased farm assets in Fiscal Year 2013
- \$300,000 raised for the program
- There will be more than 100 graduates from the program by December 2016

## 2013 COOPERATOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Alternative swine feeds
- Apple cider vinegar supplementation of goats – 3 locations
- Energy use and temperature control of commercial walk-in coolers and CoolBots
- Corn yield following prevent plant cover crop mix – 2 locations
- Twenty cover crop varieties trial – 10 locations
- Winter rye cover crop effect on cash crop yields – 7 locations
- Evaluating sunn hemp as a summer cover crop
- Understanding baseline energy use: Farm metered energy analysis
- Fly monitoring for grazing cattle – 2 locations
- Aster yellows in garlic – 9 locations
- Grazing cover crops
- Ground-truthing – Energy conservation, wind, solar
- Ground-truthing changes – Solar PV
- Cover crop tolerance to common corn and soybean herbicides
- Corn with companion cover crops
- Internal parasites in organic hog production – Ivermectin trial
- Mulching comparison for watermelon production
- Pasture monitoring – 4 locations
- Bell pepper variety trial: California Wonder versus Catriona
- Quick-turnaround cover crops for horticulture
- Poultry recordkeeping – 2 locations
- Reducing livestock feeding costs by growing higher nutrient dense crops
- Season Extension: Energy use and cost of starting seedlings
- Side-dress nitrogen for corn following rye cover crop
- Soybeans in asparagus – 2 locations
- Corn yield following small grain / legume combinations – 3 locations
- Economics of three-year vs. two-year crop rotations – 3 locations
- Winter feed monitoring
- Organic corn variety trials – 3 locations
- Fruit and vegetable yield data collection – 13 locations

Seventy-eight PFI farmers participated in 38 on-farm research and demonstration projects in 2013. Many of those trials involved cover crops, including the continuation of a long-term study in which farmers are investigating the effect of cover crops on the following year's cash yield. In addition, 13 vegetable farms kept rigorous production data to create Iowa-specific production baselines (for farmers to compare production and insurance providers to develop better fruit and vegetable coverage). Thirteen farmers learned about the energy footprint of their farms. Livestock projects included pasture and fly monitoring and poultry record keeping.

Also in 2013, Practical Farmers honored 11 farm families with Master Researcher Awards, given to those who have conducted 20 or more on-farm research trials and hosted at least five field days. Rick Exner was also presented with a Master Researcher Award for his hard work creating and sustaining the Practical Farmers' on-farm research program for so many years.

Outreach is a huge component of the PFI Cooperators' Program. All research is written up and distributed, featured on the website and in various publications, and is the focus of many field days and workshops. For example: In 2013, 50 farmers spoke about cover crops at 29 field days, and farmers and PFI staff attended the Iowa Power Farming Show and the Farm Progress show, telling more than 4,000 farmers about the benefits of cover crops.

### Members speak on the PFI Cooperators' Program

- *“Participating in research projects has helped us be more accurate with our recordkeeping.”*
- *“It is great to hear from researchers about their real-life experiments and results.”*
- *“Through the program I get access to data to make environmentally friendly decisions.”*
- *“Through PFI, I have increased use of cover crops for erosion control.”*



At Practical Farmers of Iowa, all are welcomed. The result is a highly diverse organization with all different enterprises, production practices, ages – and even a healthy dose of friends of farmers. Our membership thrives on that atmosphere:

- *“I know people of whom I can ask questions. If they are not able to help, they often know who can.”*
- *“The diversity within the organization offers support and debate, which are both extremely helpful and necessary.”*
- *“I’ve found a community of people who care deeply about sustainable farming.”*
- *“PFI members share ideas and support one another.”*
- *“Meeting and talking with farmers at PFI events helps me learn a lot about agriculture and food issues.”*
- *“They are great people who have encouraged me through their actions and words.”*



*Steve Brunk, Eldora*

In 2013, we recognized two long-time members who have specialized in building the PFI community and beyond. Matt Liebman, a professor of agronomy at Iowa State University and the Wallace Chair for Sustainable Agriculture, received PFI’s Sustainable Agriculture Achievement Award, which is given to those who have excelled in demonstrating sustainable agriculture as well as been generous with sharing with others what they have learned.

Ames resident and farmland owner Helen Gunderson received our first-ever Farmland Owner Award. This award recognizes those PFI farmland owner

members who work to sustain farm businesses, long-term soil productivity, environmental quality, and vibrant rural communities, including helping the next generation start farming.

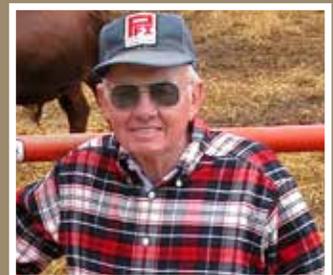
Nineteen percent of PFI members are friends of farmers, and many of them own farmland. In 2013, the Board of Directors and a committee of members helped staff develop “Practical Landowner Services,” a fee-for-service to help farmland owners and their tenants plant cover crops and add third crops to their rotations. The service was officially launched in early 2014.

## THE LATEST WORD

We said goodbye to co-founder Dick Thompson in 2013, a man who knew quite a bit about farmer-led research and information-sharing. We will miss his intelligence, enthusiasm and counsel. We dedicate this annual report to Dick. In Dick’s words, “the latest word, not the last word” on Practical Farmers comes from our members:

- *“I now use best practices I have learned from other PFI farmers.”*

- *“Through PFI I learned to think more holistically.”*
- *“We are learning so much by paying attention to the diverse work PFI does.”*
- *“This is a group of intelligent people who are thought-provoking and heart-warming to be around!”*
- *“Thanks so much for your focus on keeping this organization member-driven, and farmer-led.”*
- *“Our bodies and souls are fed well in our home because of the bounty from PFI farmers.”*



*Dick Thompson  
(1931 - 2013)*

- *“I am proud to be a member.”*
- *“This is an excellent sharing and coaching organization. Thank you.”*

Practical Farmers of Iowa's financial situation is strong. Total income for Fiscal Year 2013 was \$1,378,687. \$102,206 of that income came from memberships and donations, and \$90,732 from event fees and other unrestricted sources. The remainder – 86 percent – of the FY2013 operating budget came from grant sources. The sources of that grant funding are diverse (see box below). Practical Farmers' largest foundation grant was from the Walton Family Foundation for cover crop work and more, and the largest federal grant was from the Beginning Farmer Rancher and Development Program for beginning farmer programming. Practical Farmers will continue to increase efforts to raise the level of unrestricted funding for maximum programming flexibility.

Total expense was \$1,322,168. Salaries and benefits were 53 percent (\$708,314) of Practical Farmers' expenses in FY2013. Practical Farmers remains committed to paying stipends to its members for the leadership they provide this organization. In FY2013, Practical Farmers paid out 10.5 percent of expenses (\$139,797) to its members for conducting on-farm research, holding field days, and more.

Unrestricted reserves as of September 30, 2013, had grown to \$415,200 from \$350,702 as of the end of the 2012 fiscal year. Practical Farmers has two endowments with the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines that totaled \$187,203 as of the end of Fiscal Year 2013. Other reserves are kept more liquid in certificates of deposit and in PFI's money market accounts.

The Practical Farmers' Board made bold steps towards investment in future programming at the end of the Fiscal Year. A total of \$75,000 was set aside for a new farm transfer program, energy programming, and re-building the Savings Incentive Program funds. As of the end of the Fiscal Year, \$281,462 in Savings Incentive Program Funds was being held in Lincoln Savings Bank for savings match payouts. \$14,962 in savings matches were paid out to seven beginners graduating from the program in 2013.



*Justin and James Peterson, Knoxville*

*Practical Farmers' financial audit for FY2013 was conducted by Houston & Seeman, PC of Boone, Iowa. That audit is available for review at [www.practicalfarmers.org/about](http://www.practicalfarmers.org/about)*

### GRANTS

- Ag Ventures Alliance
- California Farmlink
- Cedar Tree Foundation
- The Ceres Foundation
- Clif Bar Foundation
- Food and Farm Communications Fund
- Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
- Iowa Learning Farms
- Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture
- The McKnight Foundation
- Michael Fields Agricultural Institute
- National Wildlife Federation
- Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative
- USDA, Agricultural Research Service
- USDA, National Institute for Food and Agriculture
- USDA, Organic Research and Education Initiative
- USDA, Risk Management Agency
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Walton Family Foundation
- Women, Food and Agriculture Network

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## Assets

	2013	2012
Cash	\$872,992	\$633,153
Certificates of deposit	\$94,486	\$104,630
Grants receivable	\$69,493	\$36,798
Unconditional promises to give*	\$362,500	\$734,200
Prepaid expenses	\$9,987	\$7,169
Equipment	\$5,005	\$3,641
Beneficial interest in assets held by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines	\$187,203	\$169,539
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$1,601,666</b>	<b>\$1,689,130</b>

\* Includes a three-year grant from the Walton Family Foundation

## Liabilities and Net Assets

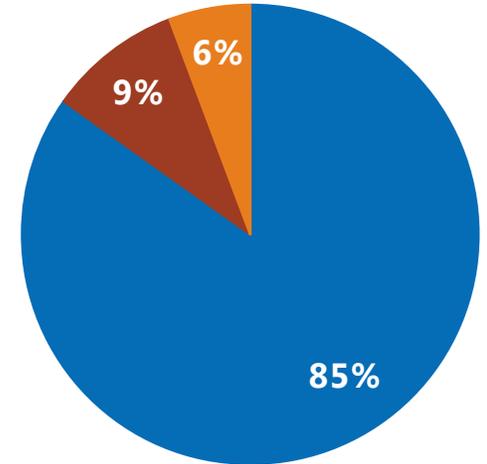
### Current Liabilities

	2013	2012
Accounts payable	\$33,205	\$12,526
Accrued payroll and taxes	\$72,309	\$47,380
Refundable advance	\$128,800	\$70,000
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$234,314</b>	<b>\$129,906</b>

### Net Assets

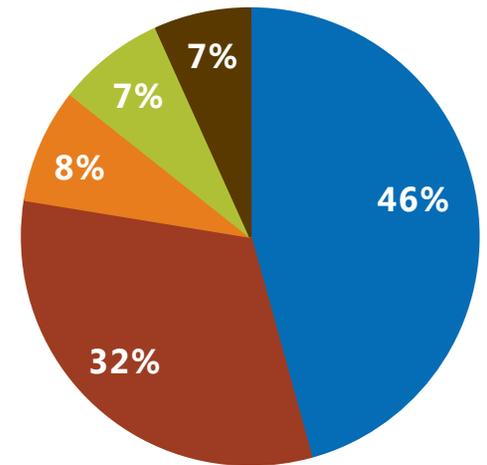
Unrestricted	\$415,200	\$350,702
Temporarily restricted	\$898,812	\$1,155,707
Permanently restricted	\$53,340	\$52,815
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$1,367,352</b>	<b>\$1,559,224</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$1,601,666</b>	<b>\$1,689,130</b>

## BUDGET ALLOTMENT



- Programming – (85%)
- Management – (9%)
- Fundraising – (6%)

## SOURCES OF FUNDING



- Foundation Grants – (46%)
- Federal Grants – (32%)
- State Grants – (8%)
- Contributions – (7%)
- Events and Other – (7%)

## SPEAKERS

Ibrahim Ali  
Dawn Anderson  
David Ausberger  
Jill Beebout  
Chris Blanchard  
Anne Bohl  
Jacob Bolson  
Ann Bushman  
Sarah Carlson  
Bruce Carney  
Craig Chase  
Jordan Clasen  
Larry Cleverly  
Tim Daley  
Siobhan Danreis  
Richard deWilde  
Melissa Dunham  
Herb Eckhouse  
Kathy Eckhouse  
Glen Elsbernd  
Rob Faux  
James Frantzen  
Irene Frantzen  
Tom Frantzen  
Eric Franzenburg  
Sally Gran  
Jeremy Gustafson  
Earl Hafner  
Jeanne Hansen  
Rick Hartmann  
Ryan Herman  
Cheryl Hopkins  
Andy Hunziker  
Maury Johnson  
Susan Jutz  
Tom Kaspar  
Ben Kreuter  
Laura Krouse  
Keegan Kult  
Curt Lambertsen  
Tim Landgraf  
Jan Libbey  
Matt Liebman  
Drew Lietz  
Robert Lynch  
Cindy McCollough  
Alice McGary  
Steve McGrew  
Adam Montri  
Jake Myers  
Gayle Olsen  
Jeremy Peake  
Mark Peterson  
Mark Quee  
Daniel Rosmann  
Mike Rosmann  
Maria Rosmann  
Ron Rosmann  
Ben Saunders  
Dave Schmidt  
Meg Schmidt  
Dick Sloan  
Julia Slocum  
Meghan Spees  
Rob Stout  
Tony Thompson  
Laura Vellema  
Neal Vellema  
Ellen Walsh-Rosmann  
Jake Wheeler

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Leigh Adcock  
Narad Bastola  
Jill Beebout  
Jacob Bolson  
Thomas Burkhead  
Angie Carter  
Jordan Clasen  
Mary Cory  
Tom Cory  
Melissa Dunham  
Carmen Duver  
Herb Eckhouse  
Kathy Eckhouse  
Kate Edwards  
Suzan Erem  
Rob Faux  
Tammy Faux  
Dana Foster  
Irene Frantzen  
James Frantzen  
Tom Frantzen  
Mukiza Gahetano  
Mark Gee  
John Gilbert  
Devan Green  
Craig Griffieon  
Helen Gunderson  
Jeremy Gustafson  
Earl Hafner  
Jeff Hafner  
Twyla Hein  
Chris Henry  
Rick Juchems  
Larry Kallem  
Tom Kaspar  
Jason Kerr  
Connie King  
Greg King  
Fred Kirschenmann  
Laura Krouse  
Matt Lechtenberg  
Matt Liebman  
Drew Lietz  
Robert Lynch  
Lee Matteson  
Danelle Myer  
Linda Naeve  
Dale Nimrod  
Sunny Nimrod  
Joe Olsen  
Doug Peters  
Joanne Peters  
Mark Peterson  
Mark Peterson  
Air Philavanh  
Andrew Pittz  
Mark Quee  
Lois Reichert  
Mike Rosmann  
Ron Rosmann  
Matt Russell  
Ben Saunders  
Carolyn Scherf  
Jordan Scheibel  
Lisa Schulte-Moore  
Grant Schultz  
Sean Skeehan  
Dick Sloan  
Julia Slocum  
Jennie Smith  
Tim Smith  
Harn Soper  
Dan Specht  
Mary Swander  
Shari Sweeney



Rod Swoboda  
Nick Wallace  
Ellen Walsh-Rosmann  
Paul Willis  
Donna Wilterdink

## FIELD DAY / PASTURE WALK HOSTS

Fred Abels  
Kim Alexander  
Nathan Anderson  
Sarah Anderson  
Angie Atwood  
Jeremy Atwood  
Rick Bednareck  
Jill Beebout  
Tim Blair  
Mary Cory  
Tom Cory  
Tim Daley  
Joel DeJong  
Andrew Dunham  
Melissa Dunham  
Ron Dunphy  
Glen Elsbernd  
Rachel Emig  
Neal Engel  
Dana Foster  
Ann Franzenburg  
Eric Franzenburg  
Dean Goodale  
Sally Gran  
Craig Griffieon  
LaVon Griffieon  
Barb Grijalva  
Rick Hartmann  
Stacy Hartmann  
Dean Henry  
Judy Henry  
Mike Henry  
Lee Matteson  
Morgan Hoenig  
Adam Hohl  
Kathy Hohl  
Julie Hohl  
Kyle Holthaus  
Mari Holthaus  
Carl Johnson  
Cheryl Johnson  
Rick Juchems  
Dustin Kaestner  
Brad Klodt  
Gail Klodt  
Laura Krouse

Tim Landgraf  
Barb Lengacher  
Joe Lengacher  
Jan Libbey  
Bob Norman  
Joe Olsen  
Jeremy Peake  
Jodi Peake  
Mark Peterson  
Melanie Peterson  
Sara Peterson  
Mark Quee  
Daniel Rosmann  
Maria Rosmann  
Ron Rosmann  
Dave Rueber  
Neal Sawyer  
Russ Schelle  
Dave Schulte  
Erik Sessions  
Sean Skeehan  
Dan Specht  
Phil Specht  
Mike Sporrer  
Kim Steele-Blair  
Barbara Stone  
Kent Swanson  
Francis Thicke  
Susan Thicke  
Becki Tucker  
Steve Tucker  
Connie Vincent  
Mike Vincent  
Ellen Walsh-Rosmann  
Jessica Weber  
Doug Webster  
Tanya Webster  
Janna Wesselius  
Jessica Wesselius  
John Wesselius  
Scott Whitney  
Phil Wille  
Barb Withrow  
Eldon Yoder

## GOVERNING COMMITTEES

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Irene Frantzen  
Jeff Klinge  
Donna Prizgintas  
Mark Quee  
Maria Rosmann

Dan Wilson  
Sally Worley

## POLICY COMMITTEE

Nathan Anderson  
Sarah Carlson  
Rick Hartmann  
Fred Kirschenmann  
Jeff Klinge  
Laura Krouse  
Drake Larsen  
Jerry Peckumn  
Mark Peterson  
Ann Robinson  
Dan Specht  
Francis Thicke

## COOPERATORS' PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Sarah Carlson  
Stefan Gailans  
Tomoko Ogawa  
Gayle Olsen  
Jeff Olsen  
Mark Quee  
Ron Rosmann  
Sean Skeehan

## EVALUATION TASK FORCE

Tammy Faux  
Cornelia Flora  
Tim Landgraf  
Drake Larsen  
Vic Madsen  
Teresa Opheim  
Sean Skeehan

## OTHER POLICY LEADERS

Nathan Anderson  
Betsy Dahl  
Glen Draper  
Ron Dunphy  
Ann Franzenburg  
Eric Franzenburg  
John Gilbert  
Sally Gran  
LaVon Griffieon  
Rick Hartmann  
Fred Kirschenmann

Jeff Klinge  
Laura Krouse  
Jerry Peckumn  
Mark Peterson  
Ann Robinson  
Ron Rosmann  
Francis Thicke  
Ellen Walsh-Rosmann

## LABOR4LEARNING

Doug Alert  
Jill Beebout  
Tom Cory  
Mary Cory  
Andrew Dunham  
Melissa Dunham  
Rob Faux  
Susan Jutz  
Tim Landgraf  
Jan Libbey  
Margaret Smith

## PRACTICAL LANDOWNER SERVICES

Sarah Carlson  
Helen Gunderson  
Chris Henning  
Gail Hickenbottom  
Tim Landgraf  
Dave Miller  
Teresa Opheim  
Mark Peterson  
Doug Roberts  
Tim Smith  
Harn Soper  
Kelly Tobin  
Kurt Van Hulzen  
Dan Wilson

## REPRESENTATIVE TO LEOPOLD CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Jutz

## HOSPITALITY HOSTS

LaVon Griffieon  
Jeremy Gustafson  
Gary Guthrie  
Mark Peterson  
Donna Prizgintas  
Tom Yucus

## HEALTHCARE TASK FORCE

Gary Guthrie  
Lana Jackson  
Susan Wallace

## SAVINGS INCENTIVE PROGRAM

### CLASS OF 2013

Brian Bagge  
Thomas Burkhead  
Jordan Clasen  
Luke Dahl  
Kate Edwards  
Beth Elsbernd

CONTINUED →



Jonathan Taiber, Cedar Falls



Fred Abels, Holland



Ellen Walsh-Rosmann, Daniel Rosmann & Maria Rosmann, Harlan

Glen Elsbernd  
 Karla Hanson  
 Morgan Hoenig  
 Cheryl Hopkins  
 Mike Hopkins  
 Jay Jung  
 Drew Lietz  
 Brian Ness  
 Cheryl Ness  
 Jacob Peterson  
 Daniel Rosmann  
 Mike Salama  
 Jordan Scheibel  
 Dave Schmidt  
 Meg Schmidt  
 Linsey Schuldt  
 Luke Schuldt  
 Grant Shultz  
 Michael Von Weihe  
 Ellen Walsh-Rosmann  
 Amber Wheeler  
 Jake Wheeler  
 Erin Wilson  
 Torray Wilson  
 Ben Wise

Angela Winburn  
 Susan Yario

**SIP MENTORS**

Nathan Anderson  
 Jason Bandstra  
 Mike Bandstra  
 Jill Beebout  
 Larry Cleverley  
 Mary Cory  
 Tom Cory  
 Glen Drowns  
 Rob Faux  
 Eric Franzenburg  
 Gary Guthrie  
 Jay Hansen and Family  
 Chris Hoerichs  
 Sharon Hoerichs  
 Cheryl Hopkins  
 Mike Hopkins  
 Martin Kramer  
 Tim Landgraf  
 Jan Libbey  
 Mark Quee  
 Matt Russell  
 Ben Saunders  
 Sean Skeeahan  
 Patrick Standley  
 Angela Tedesco  
 Tom Wahl  
 Julie Wilber  
 Scott Wilber  
 Dan Wilson  
 Erin Wilson  
 Lorna Wilson  
 Torray Wilson

**CLASS OF 2014**

Ibrahim Ali  
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## 2013 FIELD DAYS

- Cover crops (numerous field days)
- Perennial forage and marketing systems for beef cattle
- On-farm poultry processing
- Working toward a sun-powered farm
- Managing pasture to protect streams
- Managing and marketing grass- and grain-fed beef
- From poultry processing to pasture conversion
- Watering systems for a grass-based dairy
- Brewing with local small grains
- Alternative takes on vegetable CSA marketing
- Pasturing near woodlands
- Restoring farmland for native pollinators
- Sustainable vegetable production systems
- Harvesting data through on-farm research
- Perennial pasture management: a beginner's perspective
- Recordkeeping: From paper to the field
- Growing great fruits
- Collaboration as a beginning farmer strategy
- Dissecting the specialty farm experience
- Decades of research, changes and improvements
- Providing fresh produce through the fall
- Harvesting energy: Wind and solar power
- Lane systems for a grass-based dairy
- Distilling with local small grains
- On-farm energy and season extension
- Welcome back vocational ag in Independence
- Riparian buffers and groves: From planning to care



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### **DAN SPECHT**

Many donations for our beginning farmer programming were made in memory of long-time member Dan Specht, who died moving hay bales in summer 2013. His family requested memorials be given to Practical Farmers to support beginning livestock farmers.

***“Those seeds you sowed  
We’ll help them grow  
For that is how  
You would want it now”***

*– Kayla Koether, in a song written for Dan’s memorial service*

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