

REGIONAL NEWS

First-time volunteer an 'angel' at first-ever Farm Rescue haying job

By SUE ROESLER
Farm & Ranch Guide

BEULAH, N.D. - When first-time Farm Rescue volunteer Clinton Lau, 23, of South Dakota, went up to North Dakota to start Farm Rescue's first haying job, he had no idea he'd be doing a little extra besides running the John Deere tractor pulling the JD baler donated by RDO Equipment.



The first haying equipment from RDO is being run by volunteer Clinton Lau, second from right, who is standing in the hay field with the new round bales and the family he is helping, from left to right, Daniel, Lila and Jerry Braun. The Brauns are wearing T-shirts to support breast cancer in light of their daughter and sister being ill with the disease.

Lau was haying for Lila Braun, a sheep farmer near Beulah, N.D., who was not able to hay herself because she was at the Mayo Clinic with her daughter, Natalie,

who was undergoing breast cancer treatment.

Natalie had been a big part of the farm, and Lila also lost her husband, Arnold, to cancer just three months ago.

Bill Gross, Farm Rescue founder and president, said they were not helping Lila because of her husband passing away, because their rules don't allow that, but because of her daughter undergoing cancer treatment.

Lila felt like "an angel" had arrived at her ranch when Clinton arrived to help.

"I was so grateful for Farm Rescue and Clinton. He's an angel," Lila said. "It was just overwhelming that someone you don't know would come and help you - and an organization I had never heard of before - would help when I was at a complete loss as to how I was going to finish haying. I didn't know what I was going to do."

Lila had been married 39 years, and had never had to handle farming alone. She said the sheep farm was her husband's dream and they had purchased it in 2000.

Lila still works full-time off the farm in town and used to run a day care in Beulah for years before they bought the farm.

Her favorite job now on the farm is the lambing that she had to leave to her two sons this year so that she could care for her daughter.

The sons, Jerry and Daniel, were helping as much as they could at the farm. Both sons worked all day at the Beulah mine and Jerry lived on another ranch. Lila has another younger daughter, Michelle, but all of the children are grown and living their own lives.

The sons finished lambing for Lila after working all day, and were only able to do so much to help with haying.

Rain events have plagued western North Dakota producers all spring and into early summer. After Clinton arrived and started cutting hay along with help from Jerry on Thursday, June 26, and Friday morning, it began to rain Friday afternoon and didn't quit for a couple days.

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Lila Braun
Beulah, N.D.

"I couldn't bale the hay right away that was laying in windrows because it was wet, and if you bale it when it is wet, the hay can get hot and start smoking," Clinton said, adding it could also get moldy, which is not healthy for livestock.

So he returned to the farm Sunday night, after rain and 40-50 mph winds, and saw that the wet windrows of hay had blown into the fence, tearing it open and letting lambs run free. No one was at home as Lila was still at the Mayo Clinic with her daughter.

Since Clinton had grown up on a pure-bred Black Angus operation, he knew how to gather livestock and fix fence, having done it since he was young. He hurriedly fixed the fence and put every lamb back behind the fence; then picked all the hay off the fence and put it back into the windrows.

Clinton might also be the perfect volunteer since he graduated in diesel technology and worked at two different farm equipment dealerships, the most recent one, RDO Equipment in Aberdeen, S.D. He loves fixing equipment, and found that was needed at the Braun farm, too.

"Jerry's pickup broke down, so I worked on that and fixed it. It was rain-

TRACTORS	
'11 CIH 500 Quad, PTO.....	\$315,000
'09 NH T9060 HD.....	\$209,000
'13 NH T9390, PTO.....	\$209,000
'11 CIH 550 Quad, PTO.....	Coming In
COMBINES	
'13 CIH 9230, 345 engine hours.....	\$349,000
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'11 CIH 9120, Re-cond.....	\$289,000
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'03 NH 94C 36' Draper.....	\$27,500
'98 CIH 2388.....	\$55,000
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CIH 1010-30.....	Call
CIH 2412 Corn Head.....	\$52,500
'07 CIH 8010, Re-cond.....	\$155,000
CIH 1020, 30 ft. Air Reel.....	\$19,000
CIH 2015, Rake up.....	\$14,500
'05 CIH, 1020-30 ft.....	\$16,750
HAY EQUIPMENT	
NH 1475, 18'.....	\$24,000
OTHER IMPLEMENTS	
NH SD440, 51' w/SC430 cart.....	\$88,000
CIH 8220, Batt Reel.....	\$2,900
CIH SPX 4410, Rear duals.....	\$155,000
CIH 5310 16 Row Strip Tiller, w/CIH ADX 2230.....	\$102,000
E-Z Trail 710 Cart.....	\$11,500

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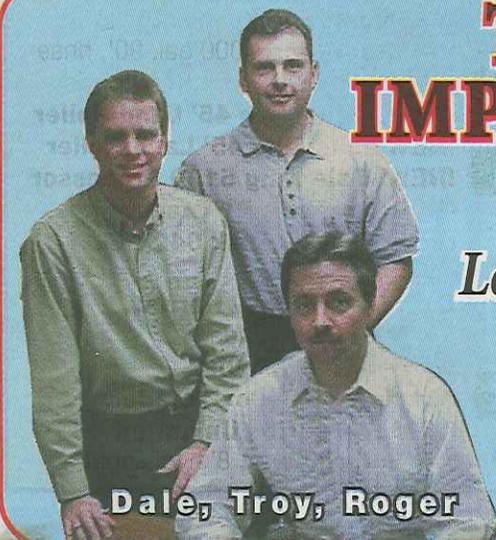
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Dale, Troy, Roger

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ing anyway, and we couldn't hay," Clinton said.

Working at RDO equipment was where Clinton first heard about Farm Rescue. He knew where Farm Rescue was helping around Aberdeen, so after working all day, would go out and relieve the volunteers.

"I work on equipment all day, but didn't get to operate the new equipment myself," Clinton said, adding that being able to relieve the volunteers and run the high-tech tractor for awhile was a joy to him.

On one relief stint with Farm Rescue he met Levi Weilenga, a young volunteer, who convinced Clinton to become an active volunteer when he was able to.

"I had a lot of fun relieving them from operating the tractor, and being able to help people who need it means everything to me," he said. "Back when I was a kid, neighbors got together and helped each other, but there are so many large farms now - we need volunteers to help."

Clinton, a National Guard member, also started a hunting lodge and hunting

event along with 12 friends, for U.S. service veterans to hunt in the Black Hills.

"My life has been so great, I love being able to volunteer and pay back," Clinton said.

Now Clinton works for a corn and soybean farmer in South Dakota and absolutely loves it. He took a little vacation after National Guard training to volunteer for Farm Rescue.

Meanwhile, Lila has returned from being with her daughter. She looks over her sheep farm and the young lambs suckling their mothers, and her own herd of Great Pyrennes dogs who guard the sheep from predators at night.

"I never planned to run this farm myself, but I want to stay here on the farm and make it work. I know Jerry would have wanted it to be passed down to our kids," Lila said.

Farm Rescue will hay for three farmers in the Beulah, Hazen, Mercer area before moving on.

The first haying venture for the volunteer organization appears to be a success, according to new volunteer Clinton. *

Farm Rescue founder Bill Gross announces new haying program

By SUE ROESLER
Farm & Ranch Guide

For the first time in Farm Rescue history, volunteers are cutting and baling hay to help out livestock producers.

Volunteer Clinton Lau started haying for Lila Braun who owns a sheep farm near Beulah, N.D., on Thursday, June 26.

Farm Rescue is a non-profit organization that started in 2006 in North Dakota and helped seed and later, harvest crops for farmers who suffered a major illness, injury or loss from a natural disaster, according to Bill Gross, Farm Rescue president and founder.

RDO equipment continues to provide equipment for the work. Now RDO has contributed a brand new John Deere tractor and round baler emblazoned with the Farm Rescue logo and its traditional American flag, Gross said.

"We wanted to start the haying program because we had so many requests for put-

ting up hay from livestock producers," he said, adding they are cutting from 500-1,000 acres of hay for producers who have been approved.

"We are so lucky to have so many volunteers across the country coming here to help farmers. We couldn't do what we do without them. Volunteers are key to our success," he added.

Since the program started, Gross said Farm Rescue has helped 285 families in North Dakota, South Dakota, eastern Montana, western Minnesota, and Iowa.

"Most of the families are in North Dakota. That's where Farm Rescue started and that is where it continues to help the most farmers," he said.

This spring, Farm Rescue seeded acres for 32 farmers, and is now taking applications for harvest (Apply at farmrescue.org). Harvesting was also started

HAYING PROGRAM:
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TRACTOR - LOADER



(NEW) 6150R IVT

(NEW) 6170R & 6150R

'10 7330 MFWD, 4200 hrs. AQ, 741NSL

'10 7330 MFWD, 2400 hrs., AQ, 741SL

'08 7330, 5600 hrs., AQ, 741SL

'09 7230 MFWD, IVT, 3850 hrs, w/741 NSL

'09 7130 MFWD, 2500 hrs, AQ, 741SL

'08 7130 MFWD, 2500 hrs, AQ, loader ready

'07 6430, 4500 hrs, 24 sp PQ, joystick

'10 9630T, 36" tracks, 1600 hrs

'78 4640, 3 Pt, 3 hyd., 6795 hrs., 18.4-42 duals

'80 4440, 14K hrs., quad, 20.8-38 tires

'66 4020, 3 pt, 2 hyd, 18.4-34

'09 CIH Puma 195, 1200 hrs., L770 loader

'13 CIH Maxxum 140, 250 hrs., loader

'11 TV 6070, 3 pt., PTO both ends, 84L loader, 18' hay head
JD H360/H380 SL & NSL Loaders On Hand

GRAIN HANDLING

(NEW) REM VRX Grain Vacs

(NEW) Westfield Augers, 10" & 13"

'04 1075 J&M Grain Cart, 18.4-4R duals

Unverferth 7200, new tarp

Brent 874, tarp

'11 Unverferth 1015 Grain Cart, 900 tires, scale, tarp

(NEW) Unverferth 1315 & 1015 Grain Carts, scale, tarp

(NEW) J&M 1401 Grain Cart

(NEW) Wheatheart Augers

Brandt 4500 Grain Vac

Brandt 5200EX

(NEW) Unverferth & J&M Grain Carts - Call For Selection

HAY

'12 568, Megawide, Net, 5K Bales

'08 568, Megawide, Net, 8K Bales

'06 567, Megatooth

'05 567, Megatooth, 13K bales

'93 535, 540 PTO

BR780A NH

'04 BR780, auto wrap

'02 856 Hesston, 1000 PTO

'11 NH H8040 SP Windrower, w/HS 18' Head, 841 hrs.

'08 M200 MacDon, 16' R80 head

'05 Frontier, 16' mower conditioner

'03 2952, 18' head, 2150 hrs.
(New) Sitrex Magnum, 18 & 20 wheel, v-rakes

**(NEW) H&S Rakes
9-14-16-Wheel**

HARVEST EQUIP.

'13 S670, 370 hrs, nice

'10 9770, 1000 hrs., duals

'10 9870, 1099 hrs., loaded, RWA

'11 9770, 1150 hrs., duals

'06 9760, 2163 hrs., duals

(2) '09 612C, non-chopping

'98 1290, 12R20, 50-series, reconditioned

'10, '12 635F

'05 630F Hydrflex

12R30 Fantini, (New)

Johnson Manufacturing Header Trailers

32' & 38' Stud King Header Trailers

FORAGE HARVESTER

2 Row wide Head, for PTFH

PLANTING/SEEDING

'05 1890, 30', 195 TBT

'10 1750, 8R30, dry fert, Dawn cleaners

'03 8186 White, 16R30, planter, liquid starter

RENTAL EQUIPMENT

(NEW) 16' Wishek Offset Disk

SPRAYING - FEEDING - MISCELLANEOUS



(NEW) Rock Badgers For Skid Steers ON HAND

'08 4830, 100' Boom, 2000 hrs, loaded

'05 4720, 90' boom, 2600 hrs.

'03 4710, 1300 hrs., 90', nice

'09 4930, 1678 hrs., loaded, 18.4 tires

'07 Summers, 1500 Gal., 90', rinse tank

'02 Summers, 1000 gal, 90', rinse tank, cone

(NEW) Degelman 45' Land Roller

(NEW) Mandako 45' Land Roller

(NEW) Bale King 5100 Processor

(NEW) Hygrade PT Grader

(NEW) Wishek Disk 842, 16', 30" blades

Brandt 70' Heavy Harrow, 7000 Commander

Wishek 24' 642 Disk

Meyer-Ink 12' Box Scrapers

'11 Accessories Unlimited Snowblower, 8' hyd. spout