

2015 MIKE WITMER MEMORIAL OPEN & FLORIDA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday & Sunday, January 24-25, 2015 Sanctioned by R.A.W. United



Hosted by Strong Life Tampa Bay * Tampa, Florida

DOWNLOAD YOUR ENTRY AT:

www.StrongLife610.net

Entry Deadline: Saturday, January 3, 2015

Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis More Information: 321-505-1194 or

rawunitedinc@gmail.com

STRONG LIFE

THE FUSION OF FAITH & FITNESS

The Official Magazine of R.A.W. United Yolume 2, Issue 10 October 2014

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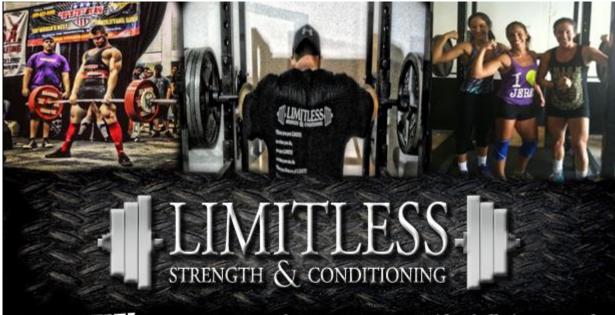
Publishing Dates:

February, April, June, August, October, December

STRONG LIFE is the premier, on-line publication for raw powerlifters, and is offered free of charge to the powerlifting community through the R.A.W. United Powerlifting Federation (www.StrongLife610.net) and STRONG LIFE Training Facility. From contest reviews to feature stories, training tips to nutritional guidelines, spiritual truths to behind-the-scenes fun, STRONG LIFE covers everything the strength community needs to know through high profile interviews, awesome photography, and intense editorial coverage.

The only publication of its kind, STRONG LIFE focuses on the positive influences that the world's strongest sport has on families and communities. Our mission is to honor God while showcasing the amazing talent, culture, and lifestyle of raw lifters.





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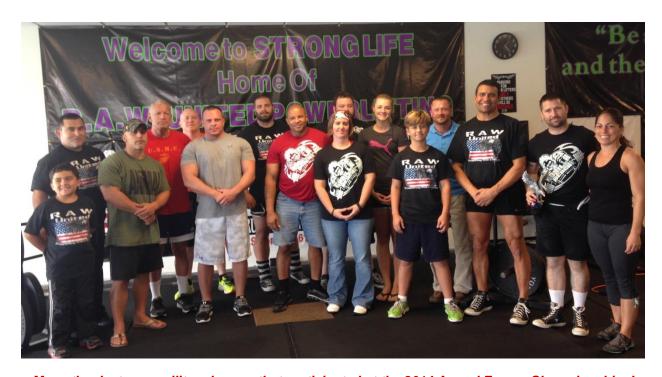
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Many thanks to our military heroes that participated at the 2014 Armed Forces Championships!

Next year's contest will include police officers and firefighters:

2015 Gary Gordon Memorial Police, Firefighter, & Armed Forces Championships Saturday, February 21 STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, Florida FREE CONTEST!

LAST CHANCE TO GET A TOTAL IN 2014

Saturday, December, 13 2014 Sanctioned by R.A.W. United



Hosted by STRONG LIFE Training Facility Melbourne, Florida

DOWNLOAD YOUR ENTRY AT:

www.StrongLife610.net

Entry Deadline: Saturday, November 22, 2014
Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

More Information: 321-505-1194 or

rawunitedinc@gmail.com

ON THE COYER: EDITOR'S REVIEW

"Commit your plans to the Lord and they will succeed." Proverbs 16:3

WHAT'S INSIDE

Incredible lifting took place in the past three months, with Pennsylvania joining the R.A.W. United family and record shattering performances at both the Armed Forces Championships and North Championships!

More important, we were honored to host Dave and Shannon Luce (our cover couple) at the North Americans prior to their wedding on October 18. We wish Dave and Shannon all of God's blessings in their marriage!





Dave and Shannon Luce October 18, 2014

The October issue of STRONG LIFE will focus on the federation's expansion plans and what our family of lifters can look forward to in 2015 and beyond! Also included in this issue of STRONG LIFE are

articles by R.A.W. United Treasurer and Chief Referee Bob Gaynor, Massachusetts State Chapter Leader Paul DeSimone, and Federation Chaplain Paul Simmons.



Many thanks to RAW Unity Meet Director Eric Talmant for his continued support of the R.A.W. United mission!

Eric is pictured with Spero, Mariya Topchy, and Jacqueline Mojica at the 2014 Gary Gordon Memorial Armed Forces Championships.

Looking ahead to November and December, the Federation is STOKED to return to Tampa on November 8 for the Tony Conyers Extravaganza. Tony will be joined on the platform by James Jacobs, Jenn Rotsinger, Jordan Wong, and seventy others in what is likely to be an awesome day of lifting! Bill Beekley, who serves as the Federation's Secretary, will be directing the meet.

Maryland State Chapter Leader Kevin Prosser will be hosting the Central Pennsylvania Single Lift Championships at Crossfit Duration in Hanover, Pennsylvania on November 8, and the STRONG LIFE Invitational has over 50 lifters registered for the November 15-16. We also have three meets scheduled in December to finish out the year!

On January 24-25, the Federation will mark the beginning of the 2015 season with the return of the Mike Witmer Memorial Open & Florida State Championships. State meets are being moved to the months of January through April in an effort to set the stage for our Championship events to follow. Take a look at the confirmed dates for 2015 in this issue of STRONG LIFE and continue to see our contests increase on the CONTEST SCHEDULE link on our website at www.StrongLife610.net.

Thank you very much for supporting STRONG LIFE magazine and R.A.W. United's mission to serve God both on and off the platform! We are so excited for the 2015 powerlifting season, and encourage interested lifters that would like to join us as State Chapter Leaders, Meet Directors, and members of the R.A.W. United family to contact us at 321-505-1194 or via email at rawunitedinc@gmail.com.

Enjoy the Reading, Spero

THE STRONG SHOT

RAW lifters are encouraged to send their best picture to *The Strong Shot* at rawunitedinc@gmail.com, and all featured lifters will receive a free shirt from STRONG LIFE magazine. Congratulations to Anna Feldbush for sending us the October 2014 photo for *The Strong Shot*!



SOMETIMES YOU JUST GOTTA' SCREAM!

ANNA FELDBUSH
AT THE NORTH AMERICANS

JESUS ZONE: FEARLESS CONFIDENCE

"Now, Lord, look on their threats and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,

By stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."

And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Acts 4:29-31

In the August issue of STRONG LIFE we discussed "Sun Stand Still Faith" and how as a Federation we must move forward boldly with our plans for expanding R.A.W. United beyond the Florida border. As our sport's fastest growing Christian federation, there will not only be growing pains within our ranks, there will also be "push back" from the outside. With that reality in mind, we must have more than purpose and perseverance to move forward – we must have divine intervention.

In the Book of Acts, Peter and John were imprisoned for healing a man who had been blind since birth. The Jewish leaders, feeling their power threatened by the Apostles, commanded them "not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus." And although Peter and John knew that death could be the result of continuing to speak about Jesus, they went to their companions, prayed, and boldly proclaimed the risen Christ all the more!

Here's why:

FEARLESS CONFIDENCE
COMES FROM CHOOSING WHO YOU WILL
BELIEVE
(ACTS 4:23-24):

We always have the option of listening to one of two voices when we are wrestling with big decisions in our lives, God or the leaders of the time. In John and Peter's case, they chose to pray and obey God – a wise choice since the Apostles literally turned the world upside down as they shared the Gospel.

Within the powerlifting community, there is always pushback when new federations emerge, especially one that professes to be Christian-based. After being a Florida-based organization for seven years, we made the decision to expand, and have hosted meets in six states this year.

As part of our expansion, we had to decide whether or not to host "National" and/or "World" level meets as well as their accompanying "National" and/or "World" records. Our Board, working in conjunction with our State Chapter Leaders, decided to avoid utilizing these terms simply because it is not an accurate reflection of R.A.W. United's current status as a federation. In other words, it is blatantly "dishonest" to hold a "National" meet in which the vast majority of contestants hail from the state hosting the event. Instead, we chose to trust that God would guide our growth in His time frame, and opted for the terms "Federation" and "Championship" events/records instead.



Justin Prince created the "Reps for Remission" program for toddler Gavin Leiba after spending time in prayer, and has raised over \$6000 for Gavin's family

FEARLESS CONFIDENCE COMES FROM REMEMBERING THAT GOD IS NEVER SURPRISED (ACTS 4:25-28):

There is a popular saying that "war makes strange bedfellows." Herod, Pontius Pilate, and Caiaphas all hated each other, but came together as allies to destroy Jesus. This reality may have surprised the people of the day, but not to God. King David lived nearly 1000 years before Jesus and prophesized these events in Psalm 2:1-2, so God already knew.

When we have fearless confidence, we know that God is in control. God knows the direction that R.A.W. United is taking, and He knows where we will be in the future. We simply have to stay within His will and press forward.

FEARLESS CONFIDENCE

COMES FROM BELIEVING IN SUPERNATURAL FAVORS (ACTS 4:29-30):

When Peter and John first encountered the beggar, Peter told him that he did not have money but believed that God would make him walk again. Peter believed in supernatural favor and he acted upon it; once the man began to walk, others that witnessed the miracle came to faith in Jesus Christ.

Likewise, we need to believe that God will show up and show off when we call upon Him. When Bob Gaynor's picture made its way to the cover of Powerlifting USA, I remember feeling like the singer in the song "Cover of the Rolling Stone." It was an AWESOME moment when the magazine arrived in my mailbox, and I was so thankful to God and to Mike Lambert to see R.A.W. United on the cover of our sport's most prestigious magazine!



And now we need that back – we need to say: "look at us and what we stand for!" And we need to boldly approach lifters, potential State Chapter Leaders, and potential meet directors with confidence knowing that what we have to offer is special!

FEARLESS CONFIDENCE

COMES FROM BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT (ACTS 4:31):

Acts 4:31 reads: "And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."



Tony Conyers at the R.A.W. United Masters Championships

There are few lifters in our sport that profess the Gospel more boldly than Tony Conyers. I have had the distinct privilege to know Tony and call him my friend for over thirty years. In that time, I have witnessed his growth not only as one of the world's strongest lifters, but more importantly, as a humble follower of Jesus Christ. He is never ashamed to share his beliefs, encourage others, and support our efforts as both a ministry and federation within the sport. Thanks brother!

Simple – follow the lead of the Apostles and gather together in prayer and watch God move in awesome ways within our sport! We are so excited for the 2015 powerlifting season, and encourage interested lifters that would like to join us as State Chapter Leaders, Meet Directors, and members of the R.A.W. United family to contact us at 321-505-1194 or via email at rawunitedinc@gmail.com.

Thanks, and God Bless, Spero

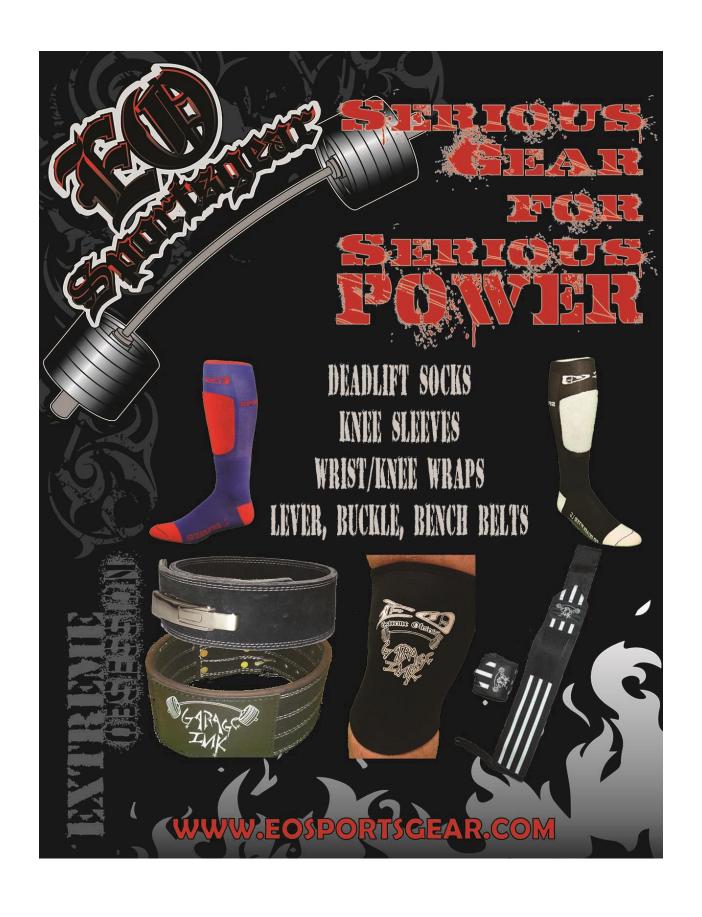
So where do we go from here?



Tony and I always remind ourselves: "It's not about powerlifting, it's about people."

Long-time friends and R.A.W. United Leaders

Jack Stevens, Larry Bucchioni, and Bob Gaynor at the 2014 North American Championships



2014 THUNDERBIRD WINTER CLASSIC

Saturday, December 20, 2014 Sanctioned by R.A.W. United



Hosted by Thunderbird Gym Monessen, Pennsylvania

DOWNLOAD YOUR ENTRY AT:

www.StrongLife610.net

Entry Deadline: Saturday, November 29, 2014 Meet Director: Dave Lhota

More Information: 814-521-9182

CONTEST REVIEW: GROWTH CONTINUES IN PENNSYLVANIA & FLORIDA!

"Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might." Ephesians 6:10

R.A.W. United hosted the Gary Gordon Memorial Armed Forces Championships in September and the North American Championships in October, while Thunderbird Gym owner Dave Lhota hosted the Pennsylvania State Championships in

August. Dave's mom went to be with the Lord shortly after his meet, so the results were delayed until this issue of STRONG LIFE. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out for Dave and his family.



Dave (left), pictured with Best Lifters Richelle Tharp and John Leonard, at the 2014 Pennsylvania State Championships

2014 PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS & THUNDERBIRD OPEN

Saturday, August 16 Thunderbird Gym * Monessen, Pennsylvania

Outstanding performances by Richelle Tharp, Marcus Bell, Jeff Bugajski, and John Leonard set the stage for a great day of lifting! Several lifters contacted the

Federation to express both their gratitude and condolences for Dave, and we look forward to hosting more contests in the Keystone State!



Master lifter Domenick Amoroso had a record setting day, going 320, 170, 380 in the 70-74, 198s!

Women

97

IRONMAN, No Belt

8-9

Alexia Workman

| 97 | 8-9 | Alexia Workman | - | 45 | - | - |
|-------|---------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 148 | 20-24 | Richelle Tharp | 160 | 145 | 305 | 610 |
| IRONN | IAN, Be | lt | | | | |

45

| 132 | 14-15 | Alexis Reedy | - | 100 | 215 | 315 |
|------------|---|---|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 148 | 20-24 | Richelle Tharp | 160 | 145 | 305 | 610 |
| RAW | | | | | | |
| 132 | 14-15 | Alexis Reedy | - | 100 | 215 | 315 |
| 148 | 20-24 | Richelle Tharp | 160 | 145 | 305 | 610 |
| <u>Men</u> | | | | | | |
| IRON | MAN, No | Belt | | | | |
| 97 | 12-13 8-9 | Leo lacovangelo James Standish | 135 - | 75 - | 170 95 | 380 - |
| 114 | 10-11 | Sam lacovangelo | 105 | 60 | 140 | 305 |
| 181 | 12-13 | Nathan Lynch | 135 | 95 | 200 | 520 |
| 198 | 35-39 | Uriah Jones | - | 315 | - | - |
| 220 | 25-29 | Darryl Jarvis Travis Buffy | - | 365 340 | - | - |
| 308 | 65-69 40-44 | Ron Jeffery John Jackson | 430 - | 265 445 | 530 500 | 1125 945 |
| 308+ | 35-39 | Gino Frezzell | - | 360 | - | - |
| IRON | MAN, Be | elt | | | | |
| 97 | 12-13 8-9 | Leo lacovangelo James Standish | 135 - | 75 - | 170 95 | 380 - |
| 114 | 10-11 | Sam lacovangelo | 105 | 60 | 140 | 305 |
| 132 | 14-15 | Mike Standish | 175 | 120 | 275 | 575 |
| 165 | 18-19 | Marcus Bell | 395 | 245 | 425 | 1065 |
| 181 | 40-44 12-13 20-24 | Joe Standish Nathan Lynch Donald Fakner | 245 135 350 | 185 95 - | 400 200 - | 830 520 - |
| 198 | 70-74 35-39 | Domenick Amoroso Uriah Jones | 320 - | 170 315 | 380 - | 870 - |
| 220 | 25-29 60-64 25-29 25-29 25-29 | Jeff Bugajski David Lhota Darryl Jarvis Travis Buffy Dustin Leonard | 425 450 - - | 285 285 365 340 | 565 450 - - 530 | 1275 1185 - - |

| 308 | | Ron Jeffery John Jackson | 430 - | 265 445 | 530 500 | 1125 945 |
|------|-------|-----------------------------|----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 308+ | 35-39 | Gino Frezzell | _ | 360 | _ | _ |



Richelle Tharp takes 160 pounds into the hole with Maryland State Chapter Leader Kevin Prosser spotting!

RAW

| 132 | 14-15 | Mike Standish | 175 | 120 | 275 | 575 |
|-----|-------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 165 | 18-19 | Marcus Bell | 395 | 245 | 425 | 1065 |
| | 40-44 | John Stringa | - | 300 | - | - |
| | 40-44 | Bob Gregory | - | - | 500 | - |
| 181 | 40-44 | Joe Standish | 245 | 185 | 400 | 830 |
| | 20-24 | Donald Fakner | 350 | - | - | - |
| 198 | 70-74 | Domenick Amoroso | 320 | 170 | 380 | 870 |
| | 35-39 | Uriah Jones | - | 315 | - | - |
| 220 | 25-29 | Jeff Bugajski | 425 | 285 | 565 | 1275 |
| | 60-64 | David Lhota | 450 | 285 | 450 | 1185 |
| | 25-29 | Darryl Jarvis | - | 365 | - | - |
| | 25-29 | Travis Buffy | - | 340 | - | - |
| | 25-29 | Dustin Leonard | - | - | 530 | - |
| | | | | | | |

| 308 | 65-69 | John Leonard Ron Jeffery John Jackson | 575 430 - | 460 265 445 | 650 530 500 | 1685 1125 945 |
|------|-------|---|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 308+ | 35-39 | Gino Frezzell | - | 360 | - | - |



Youth lifter Cheyne Johnson of STRONG LIFE Training Facility at the 2014 North Americans

2014 GARY GORDON MEMORIAL ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday, September 20 STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, Florida



Operation Iraqi Freedon veteran Donnie Kiernan pulling strong at the Armed Forces Championships!

R.A.W. United's annual Armed Forces Championships, a FREE contest for our military heroes, proved to be another awesome day of comradery and lifting, with veterans and active service members encouraging and supporting each other throughout the day! Dedicated in honor of Medal of Honor recipient Gary Gordon, the contest is a tribute to Gary and all our brothers and sisters that sacrificed their lives in defense of our great nation!

Many thanks to those that competed for their selfless sacrifice to our country, and more thanks to their families for supporting their unwavering love of America! May God richly bless each and every one of you!

And thanks to those non-military lifters that joined us on the platform to support our heroes! Next year's event will be two days in length, with police officers and firefighters joining our armed forces lifters on Saturday, and a "Support Our Troops" event on Sunday for non-military personnel to help offset the cost of this FREE event for those that dare to serve! The 2015 contest will take place on February 21-22 at STRONG LIFE Training Facility in Melbourne, Florida.



Thanks again to all our military heroes!

Women

IRONMAN, Belt

| 148 | 18-19 | Mariya Topchy | 170 | 105 | 220 | 495 |
|------------|-------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| RAW | | | | | | |
| 132 | 40-44 | Jacqueline Mojica | 190 | 125 | 280 | 595 |
| 148 | 18-19 | Mariya Topchy | 170 | 105 | 220 | 495 |
| <u>Men</u> | | | | | | |

IRONMAN, No Belt

| 114 | 12-13 | Andrew Kearney | 135 | 82 | 180 | 397 |
|-----|-------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 198 | 50-54 | Spero Tshontikidis | 375 | 240 | 515 | 1130 |





Best Lifter Rich Nichols pulling strong!

IRONMAN, Belt

| 97 | 8-9 | Logan Acevedo | - | 45 | - | - |
|-----|----------------|-----------------------------|-----|------------|----------|----------|
| 114 | 12-13 | Andrew Kearney | 135 | 82 | 180 | 397 |
| 148 | 30-34 | Rich Nichols | 315 | 180 | 405 | 900 |
| 198 | 50-54 | Spero Tshontikidis | 375 | 240 | 515 | 1130 |
| 220 | 40-44 45-49 | Jorge Acevedo Chris Cash | - | 415 255 | 365 - | 780 - |





Chris Musillo setting up for a 340 pound bench in the 181s

RAW

| 148 | 30-34 | Rich Nichols | 315 | 180 | 405 | 900 |
|------|-------------------------|---|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 181 | 35-39 | Chris Musillo | - | 340 | - | - |
| 198 | 50-54 60-64 | Spero Tshontikidis John Harp | 375 - | 240 300 | 515 405 | 1130 705 |
| 220 | 40-44 30-34 45-49 | Jorge Acevedo Richard Hodges Chris Cash | - - - | 415 350 255 | 365 - - | 780 - - |
| 308 | 35-39 | Rob Doll | 600 | 450 | 600 | 1650 |
| 308+ | 30-34 | Donnie Kiernan | 525 | 425 | 650 | 1600 |



Rich Hodges finished at 350 pounds in the bench!



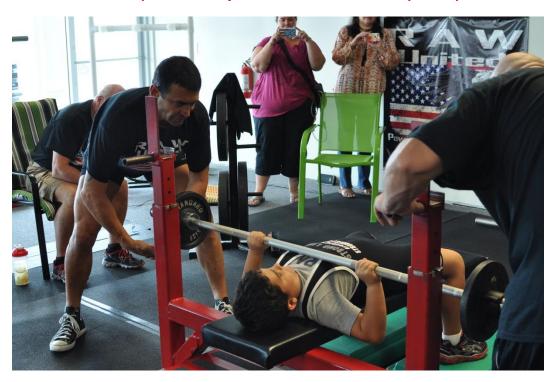
Rob Doll moved HUGE weight at the Armed Forces Championships, and USMC & Vietnam veteran John Harp traveled from Salem, Oregon for his record breaking day!





Jorge Acevedo, currently serving in the US Army at Camp Blanding, and son, Logan,

have competed annually at the Armed Forces Championships!



2014 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday & Sunday, October 11-12
Saturday & Sunday, October 18-19
STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, Florida



Jay Grayauskie moved BIG weight in his R.A.W. United debut, capturing Best Lifters honors on Day Three of the North American Championships!

GOOD TIMES and AWESOME LIFTING took place at this year's North American Championships! The record books were shattered throughout the four day event, and the meet served as the transition into our fall line-up.

USF Lifter Veronika Buran captured top honors in the 105s, and rising teenage star Savannah Green had a record setting day to take the 114s. Youth lifter Valery Linkenhoker took the 123s, and is looking forward to a record setting day at the STRONG LIFE Invitational next month. Teenage sensation Faryn Antenucci went 242, 105, 277 to win the 148s, and Dulcy Olson posted records in the squat and total to take the 181s. Brettany Murdock nailed records across the boards in the 198s, and cover girl Shannon Luce was spectacular, going 425, 200, 405 before getting married congrats again to Dave and Shannon!

On the men's side, a teenage contingent from STRONG LIFE Training Facility including Ben Johnson (114), Andrew Kearney (123), and Juan Torres (132) swept

the lighter classes. Juan's lifts of 245, 125, and 277 were all good for new teenage records. The 165s had a solid battle with Rick Geary finishing on top with a 965 total. Joe Lazarin, lifting with us for the first time, was extremely impressive, finishing at 395, 315, 500 for a solid 1210 total in the 181s! Jay Grayauskie, also lifting in his first contest with R.A.W. United, was flawless going 460, 355, 600 in the 198s. Prince, who raised over \$6000.00 toward medical expenses for Team Gavin, finished at 1250, followed by Chris Lilly and Jesse Shelton. Training partners John Hallman and Dave Luce captured the 220s and 242s respectively, with John finishing at 1580 and Dave at 1455. Cranford Roberts hit big lifts in the 220s as well, and Masters Champion Larry Bucchioni - he's like the Energizer Bunny, just keeps going - broke more records with his 965 total. Finally, teenage newcomer Anthony **Martinez** literally squatted and deadlifted for the first time, finishing at 1015 in the 275s - we're real excited to get Anthony back in the gym once his football season ends!



Youth lifter Anya Johnson gets stronger every time she's on the platform!

Many thanks to everyone that competed for supporting R.A.W. United and our mission! We truly appreciate everyone's support and friendship, and look forward to seeing many back at the Tony Conyers Extravaganza next month!

More thanks to Loma Amore, Faryn Antenucci, Larry Bucchioni, Pete Classon, Marty Demerich, Larry Dromerhauser, Bob Gaynor, Rick Geary, Andrew Hung, Jessi Irons, Andrew Kearney, Jack Stevens, Eric Talmant, Caryn Tshontikidis, Dave Whitehead, and everyone that helped out!



Masters Champions Loma Amore and Larry Bucchioni



TEAM GAVIN

Many thanks to Justin Prince, and all of God's blessings to Gavin and his family!

WOMEN

IRONMAN, No Belt

| 88 | 12-13 | Anya Johnson | 125 | 52 | 142 | 319 |
|-----|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 97 | 12-13 | Emma Remonsellez-Conde | 40 | 30 | 100 | 170 |
| 105 | 20-24 40-44 12-13 14-15 | Veronika Buran Liz Johnson Abby Mechachonis Anna Feldbush | 150 107 122 125 | 75 65 62 47 | 170 165 137 140 | 395 337 321 312 |
| 114 | 14-15 14-15 | Savannah Green Jessi Irons | 175 70 | 77 60 | 185 125 | 305 255 |
| 123 | 12-13 16-17 | Valery Linkenhoker Cheney Hess | 160 147 | 82 90 | 212 185 | 454 422 |
| 148 | 16-17 | Faryn Antenucci | 242 | 105 | 277 | 624 |
| 165 | 12-13 | Piper Jenkins | 135 | 80 | 175 | 390 |

| 181 | 14-15 | Dulcy Olson | 210 | 85 | 250 | 545 |
|------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 198 | 14-15 12-13 | Brettany Murdock Karly Hudson | 210 177 | 105 72 | 260 205 | 575 454 |
| 198+ | 14-15 | Taeghan O'Neill | 72 | 72 | 165 | 309 |
| IRON | MAN, Be | lt | | | | |
| 88 | 12-13 | Anya Johnson | 125 | 52 | 142 | 319 |
| 97 | 12-13 | Emma Remonsellez-Conde | 40 | 30 | 100 | 170 |
| 105 | 20-24 40-44 12-13 14-15 | Veronika Buran Liz Johnson Abby Mechachonis Anna Feldbush | 150 107 122 125 | 75 65 62 47 | 170 165 137 140 | 395 337 321 312 |
| 114 | 14-15 14-15 | Savannah Green Jessi Irons | 175 70 | 77 60 | 185 125 | 305 255 |
| 123 | 12-13 16-17 | Valery Linkenhoker Cheney Hess | 160 147 | 82 90 | 212 185 | 454 422 |



Mariya Topchy continues to up her total at every meet!

| 148 | 16-17 18-19 | Faryn Antenucci Mariya Topchy | 242 185 | 105 115 | 277 230 | 624 530 |
|------|----------------|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 165 | 12-13 | Piper Jenkins | 135 | 80 | 175 | 390 |
| 181 | 14-15 | Dulcy Olson | 210 | 85 | 250 | 545 |
| 198 | 14-15 12-13 | Brettany Murdock Karly Hudson | 210 177 | 105 72 | 260 205 | 575 454 |
| 198+ | 14-15 | Taeghan O'Neill | 72 | 72 | 165 | 309 |



Karen Iseman pulling strong in her R.A.W. United debut!

RAW

| 105 | 20-24 | Veronika Buran | 150 | 75 | 170 | 395 |
|------|-------|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| | 40-44 | Liz Johnson | 107 | 65 | 165 | 337 |
| | 14-15 | Anna Feldbush | 125 | 47 | 140 | 312 |
| 114 | 14-15 | Savannah Green | 175 | 77 | 185 | 305 |
| | 14-15 | Jessi Irons | 70 | 60 | 125 | 255 |
| 123 | 16-17 | Cheney Hess | 147 | 90 | 185 | 422 |
| 148 | 16-17 | Faryn Antenucci | 242 | 105 | 277 | 624 |
| | 18-19 | Mariya Topchy | 185 | 115 | 230 | 530 |
| 181 | 14-15 | Dulcy Olson | 210 | 85 | 250 | 545 |
| 198 | 20-24 | Shannon Thompson | 425 | 200 | 405 | 1030 |
| | 14-15 | Brettany Murdock | 210 | 105 | 260 | 575 |
| 198+ | 14-15 | Taeghan O'Neill | 72 | 72 | 165 | 309 |
| | | | | | | |



Cover Girl:
Shannon Luce nailing a 425 pound record squat!

MEN

IRONMAN, No Belt

| 66 | 8-9 | Nathan Johnson | 32 | 27 | 75 | 134 |
|----|-------|----------------|-----|----|-----|-----|
| 77 | 12-13 | Ryan Feldbush | 102 | 55 | 125 | 282 |



Cranford Roberts pushing HUGE weight!

| 105 | 12-13 | Trystan Hornby | 87 | 60 | 135 | 282 |
|-----|-------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 114 | 14-15 | Ben Johnson | 112 | 67 | 165 | 344 |
| 123 | 12-13 | Andrew Kearney | 155 | 90 | 185 | 430 |
| | 12-13 | Cheyne Johnson | 117 | 70 | 137 | 324 |
| | 14-15 | Eric Ritter | 85 | 65 | 160 | 310 |
| | 14-15 | Daniel Bornemann | 90 | 70 | 150 | 310 |
| 132 | 16-17 | Juan Torres | 245 | 125 | 277 | 647 |
| | 12-13 | Trey Plyler | 150 | 135 | 230 | 515 |
| | 12-13 | Derek Huss | 105 | 67 | 135 | 307 |
| 165 | 25-29 | Rick Geary | 300 | 235 | 430 | 965 |
| | 16-17 | Jeremiah Fontaine | 305 | 215 | 355 | 875 |
| 181 | 30-34 | Martin Demerich | 225 | 265 | 340 | 830 |
| | 14-15 | Kyle Fitzgerald | 180 | 140 | 300 | 620 |
| 198 | 14-15 | Andrew Hung | 245 | 170 | 300 | 715 |
| 220 | 16-17 | Sean Casey | 265 | 150 | 325 | 740 |



Chris Lilly pulling strong!

| 242 | 65-69 | Larry Bucchioni | 355 | 235 | 505 | 1095 | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| 275 | 16-17 | Anthony Martinez | 335 | 255 | 425 | 1015 | | | |
| IRONN | IRONMAN, Belt | | | | | | | | |
| 66 | 8-9 | Nathan Johnson | 32 | 27 | 75 | 134 | | | |
| 77 | 12-13 | Ryan Feldbush | 102 | 55 | 125 | 282 | | | |
| 105 | 12-13 | Trystan Hornby | 87 | 60 | 135 | 282 | | | |
| 114 | 14-15 | Ben Johnson | 112 | 67 | 165 | 344 | | | |
| 123 | 12-13 12-13 14-15 14-15 | Andrew Kearney Cheyne Johnson Eric Ritter Daniel Bornemann | 155 117 85 90 | 90 70 65 70 | 185 137 160 150 | 430 324 310 310 | | | |



Valery Linkenhoker, Jeremy Hoffower (Meet Director), Jay Grayauskie, Brandon Hagerott

| 16-17 | Juan Torres | 245 | 125 | 277 | 647 |
|-------|--|---|---|--|--|
| 12-13 | Trey Plyler | 150 | 135 | 230 | 515 |
| 12-13 | Derek Huss | 105 | 67 | 135 | 307 |
| 20-24 | Matt Miller | - | 260 | - | - |
| 25-29 | Rick Geary | 300 | 235 | 430 | 965 |
| 16-17 | Evan Fines | 270 | 225 | 405 | 900 |
| 16-17 | Jeremiah Fontaine | 305 | 215 | 355 | 875 |
| 80-84 | Bill Tinkler | - | 200 | 315 | 515 |
| 30-34 | Blaine Prince | 365 | 290 | 410 | 1065 |
| 30-34 | Martin Demerich | 225 | 265 | 340 | 830 |
| 14-15 | Kyle Fitzgerald | 180 | 140 | 300 | 620 |
| 20-24 | Lucas Porto | - | 295 | - | - |
| 14-15 | Andrew Hung | 245 | 170 | 300 | 715 |
| 20-24 | Brandon Hagerott | 500 | 320 | 630 | 1450 |
| 16-17 | Sean Casey | 265 | 150 | 325 | 740 |
| 65-69 | Larry Bucchioni | 355 | 235 | 505 | 1095 |
| 16-17 | Anthony Martinez | 335 | 255 | 425 | 1015 |
| | 12-13 12-13 20-24 25-29 16-17 16-17 80-84 30-34 14-15 20-24 14-15 20-24 16-17 65-69 | 12-13 Trey Plyler 12-13 Derek Huss 20-24 Matt Miller 25-29 Rick Geary 16-17 Evan Fines 16-17 Jeremiah Fontaine 80-84 Bill Tinkler 30-34 Blaine Prince 30-34 Martin Demerich 14-15 Kyle Fitzgerald 20-24 Lucas Porto 14-15 Andrew Hung 20-24 Brandon Hagerott 16-17 Sean Casey 65-69 Larry Bucchioni | 12-13 Trey Plyler 150 12-13 Derek Huss 105 20-24 Matt Miller - 25-29 Rick Geary 300 16-17 Evan Fines 270 16-17 Jeremiah Fontaine 305 80-84 Bill Tinkler - 30-34 Blaine Prince 365 30-34 Martin Demerich 225 14-15 Kyle Fitzgerald 180 20-24 Lucas Porto - 14-15 Andrew Hung 245 20-24 Brandon Hagerott 500 16-17 Sean Casey 265 65-69 Larry Bucchioni 355 | 12-13 Trey Plyler 150 135 12-13 Derek Huss 105 67 20-24 Matt Miller - 260 25-29 Rick Geary 300 235 16-17 Evan Fines 270 225 16-17 Jeremiah Fontaine 305 215 80-84 Bill Tinkler - 200 30-34 Blaine Prince 365 290 30-34 Martin Demerich 225 265 14-15 Kyle Fitzgerald 180 140 20-24 Lucas Porto - 295 14-15 Andrew Hung 245 170 20-24 Brandon Hagerott 500 320 16-17 Sean Casey 265 150 65-69 Larry Bucchioni 355 235 | 12-13 Trey Plyler 150 135 230 12-13 Derek Huss 105 67 135 20-24 Matt Miller - 260 - 25-29 Rick Geary 300 235 430 16-17 Evan Fines 270 225 405 16-17 Jeremiah Fontaine 305 215 355 80-84 Bill Tinkler - 200 315 30-34 Blaine Prince 365 290 410 30-34 Martin Demerich 225 265 340 14-15 Kyle Fitzgerald 180 140 300 20-24 Lucas Porto - 295 - 14-15 Andrew Hung 245 170 300 20-24 Brandon Hagerott 500 320 630 16-17 Sean Casey 265 150 325 65-69 Larry Bucchioni 355 235 505 |



Dave Luce taking it to the hole!

RAW

| 114 | 14-15 | Ben Johnson | 112 | 67 | 165 | 344 |
|-----|-------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 123 | 14-15 | Eric Ritter | 85 | 65 | 160 | 310 |
| | 14-15 | Daniel Bornemann | 90 | 70 | 150 | 310 |
| 132 | 16-17 | Juan Torres | 245 | 125 | 277 | 647 |
| | 20-24 | Matt Miller | - | 260 | - | - |
| 165 | 25-29 | Rick Geary | 300 | 235 | 430 | 965 |
| | 16-17 | Evan Fines | 270 | 225 | 405 | 900 |
| | 16-17 | Jeremiah Fontaine | 305 | 215 | 355 | 875 |
| | 80-84 | Bill Tinkler | - | 200 | 315 | 515 |
| 181 | 25-29 | Joe Lazarin | 395 | 315 | 500 | 1210 |
| | 25-29 | Gus Quartararo | 375 | 265 | 440 | 1080 |
| | 30-34 | Blaine Prince | 365 | 290 | 410 | 1065 |
| | 14-15 | Kyle Fitzgerald | 180 | 140 | 300 | 620 |
| | 20-24 | Lucas Porto | - | 295 | - | - |
| | | | | | | |

| 198 | 30-34 30-34 35-39 | Jay Grayauskie Justin Prince Chris Lilly | 460 450 380 | 355 300 315 | 600 500 500 | 1415 1250 1195 |
|-----|-------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| | 25-29 | Jesse Shelton | 400 | 315 | 445 | 1160 |
| | 16-17 | Vince Buzzo | 285 | 275 | 405 | 965 |
| | 30-34 | Martin Demerich | 225 | 265 | 340 | 830 |
| | 14-15 | Andrew Hung | 245 | 170 | 300 | 715 |
| 220 | 30-34 | John Hallman | 600 | 375 | 605 | 1580 |
| | 30-34 | Cranford Roberts | 555 | 450 | 500 | 1505 |
| | 20-24 | Brandon Hagerott | 500 | 320 | 630 | 1450 |
| | 35-39 | Chris Rousch | 445 | 337 | 515 | 1297 |
| | 16-17 | Sean Casey | 265 | 150 | 325 | 740 |
| | 40-44 | Greg Agcaoili | - | 365 | - | - |
| | 50-54 | Dave Whitehead | - | 300 | - | - |
| 242 | 25-29 | Dave Luce | 485 | 385 | 585 | 1455 |
| | 65-69 | Larry Bucchioni | 355 | 235 | 505 | 1095 |
| | 25-29 | TJ Pomerleau | 260 | 350 | 375 | 985 |
| 275 | 16-17 | Anthony Martinez | 335 | 255 | 425 | 1015 |



The Timeless Bill Tinkler!

GOT BLUES ???



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RULEBOOK:

R.A.W. UNITED PUBLISHES 2015 RULEBOOK

Written by R.A.W. United Treasurer & Chief Referee Bob Gaynor

Bob Gaynor's column will be back in December so we can focus this issue on R.A.W. United's expansion efforts, the revised 2015 contest schedule, and update rules and records policies. With our expansion efforts underway, Bob constructed the Federation's new Rulebook (you can access it on the RULES link on our website at www.strongLife610.net) and Referee's Exam. From Bob:

Several new policies and procedures will go into effect on January 1, 2015, and we want to take this time to inform lifters of the direction the Federation will be taking next year with regard to divisions and age groups, records and referees, and the annual contest schedule.

DIVISIONS & AGE GROUPS

Beginning in January, our "Divisions" will move to IRONMAN and RAW. IRONMAN competitors must wear a one-piece, nonsupportive singlet; RAW lifters must wear a one-piece, non-supportive singlet and can utilize a belt, wrist wraps, and non-fastening knee sleeves. For those that have been competing with us, we have simply eliminated the "IRONMAN, Belt" division because there was not significant participation in this category to warrant its continuance.

Youth lifters must compete in the IRONMAN Division, and are permitted to utilize a belt in competition.

Beginning in January, our age groups will be restructured as follows:

Youth 7-Under, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13

Teenage 14-15, 16-17, 18-19 Senior 14-Above

Masters 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, 90-99, 100-Above

Lifters can compete in both their specific age group and as an "open" lifter in the senior division. IRONMAN competitors will automatically crossover to the RAW Division for both placing and record purposes. Youth lifters are restricted to compete in the IRONMAN Division.

RECORDS & REFEREES

Records will be revised prior to January 1, 2015 in accordance with the new age group sequence and division structuring.

Three types of records will be maintained – State, Federation, and Championship. State Records and Federation Records can be set/broken at all contests sanctioned by R.A.W. United. Championship Records can only be set/broken at our six Championship events: (1) Police, Firefighter, & Armed Forces Championships, (2) Youth & Teenage Championships, (3) Masters Championships, (4) Women's Senior Championships, and (6) All-Time RAW Record Breakers Meet.

State Records will be maintained by State Chapter Leaders; **Federation** Championship Records will be maintained at the National Office. Federation and Championship Records will be maintained in a "Top Twenty" format. For example, in the IRONMAN Division, Senior, Men's 198 pound class, the "Top Twenty" lifts will be maintained for all lifters ages 14 and above. The same will hold true in the Youth, Teenage, and Masters age groups. Power" records will be maintained for both IRONMAN and RAW competitors; all "Push/Pull" and "Single Lift" records will be maintained exclusively in the RAW Division.

With regard to referees, only sanctioned referees will be permitted to officiate at R.A.W. United events after January 1, 2015. We are testing our current staff to ensure everyone is certified prior to the New Year. Anyone interested in joining our contest staff

should send a resume to the National Office; the address is: R.A.W. United, Inc. * 1085 Highway A1A, Unit 1302 * Satellite Beach, FL 32937.

ANNUAL CONTEST SCHEDULE

As a result of our expansion, the contest schedule is being revised to afford lifters the opportunity to qualify for our Championships events. State contests will be held the first four months of each year, followed by agespecific Championship events between April and August, culminating with the All-Time RAW Record Breakers Meet in November. Championship events, with the exception of the Police, Firefighters, & Armed Forces Championships in February, will require qualifying totals that will be revised annually. Entry forms and qualification standards can be accessed in the CONTEST SCHEDULE link on our website www.StrongLife610.net.

WE WILL CONTINUE WITH THE 80'S IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF STRONG LIFE!



Bob Gaynor, pictured with Larry Bucchoni, serves as Treasurer and Chief Referee for R.A.W. UNITED.

Bob is the All-Time Masters Record Holder in the Deadlift 680 pounds @ 198 See the lift by clicking the link below!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tK6_DD8vAoE





2015 POLICE, FIREFIGHTER, & ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday, February 21, 2015 Sanctioned by R.A.W. United



Hosted by STRONG LIFE Training Facility Melbourne, Florida

DOWNLOAD YOUR FREE ENTRY AT:

www.StrongLife610.net

Entry Deadline: Saturday, January 31, 2015

Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis More Information: 321-505-1194 or

rawunitedinc@gmail.com

2015 SUPPORT THE TROOPS OPEN

Sunday, February 22, 2015 Sanctioned by R.A.W. United



Hosted by STRONG LIFE Training Facility Melbourne, Florida

DOWNLOAD YOUR ENTRY AT:

www.StrongLife610.net

Entry Deadline: Saturday, January 31, 2015
Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis
More Information: 321-505-1194 or

rawunitedinc@gmail.com

The



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Don't hesitate - become a Gym Warrior today!







POWER SPOTLIGHT: JOZI CHAPMAN

By Paul Desimone

"He who walks with wise men shall be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed."

Proverbs 13:20

This month I decided to interview a lifter that has been training and competing for less than one year.

Why, you ask?

Eric Lillibridge and I spoke about interviewing for STRONG LIFE, however, we were unable to connect. I also contacted Fred Hatfield – Dr. Squat – but he wanted to

conduct the interview via email and I prefer in person, phone, or skype so we can interact and the interviewee can share his/her story. As a result, I decided to interview your "every day powerlifter."

There it is, and it's the right choice! Jozlin "Jozi" Chapman joined my gym in an effort to be strong and look good. Sound familiar?



Jozi pulling strong at Gym Warriors in Peabody, Massachusetts

Jozi, how old are you?

Thirty-four and a half, and I've been working out on and off since middle school.

What sports did you participate in in high school?

I played basketball, softball, indoor and outdoor track throwing shot put and discus, and field hockey. I was the goalie; I was so huge, no one could get by me (she laughs).

That's what I played. I also tried out for cheering, but that didn't go so well. I am about 5' 10', and weighed about 220 pounds in high school, so I was a very round 220 pounds!

When did you start losing weight?

I started losing weight in 2012 when we had a "Biggest Loser" contest at work.

What kind of work?

Telemarketing - 400 calls a day sitting on my butt. I lost about 35 pounds at that time.

When did you want to start doing Strongman events and powerlifting contests?

Well, that's when I met you, Paul, about a year ago.

Tell us about your upbringing.

I am the youngest of four girls. We were raised on a family farm in Amesbury, Massachusetts, and did a lot of playing outside. We used to have rotten tomato fights, "pumbling" each other into the dirt. We used to shovel a ton of poop - cows, pigs, chickens, turkeys. And rake a lot of leaves.

What was your favorite part of growing up on a farm?

I think walking and running around in the woods and getting lost for hours. And the starting of the wood stove - that smell. And not knowing that we were poor. Those are my most favorite memories.

What do your sisters think about your working out?

I think they are happy that I have found a healthy outlet for all of my pent up energy. I hope they are proud of my progress.

What has been the hardest transition?

Diet; it's difficult to find a healthy balance between eating healthy and being a glutton.

What do you like most about the weights?

I think just putting up more weight. I also like being pushed and seeing my body transform, and seeing muscle definition that I have never seen my whole life.

What is your favorite powerlifting movement?

The deadlift is my favorite movement because that's what I am the best at now. And because it gives you scars (laughs). Dragging the bar up those legs is a great way to know you're doing it correctly. Just make sure you wear socks to protect everyone else from the blood that might come out!

Do you remember the first comp you did?

It was the end of October, and I competed raw.

What do you do for work now?

I am a server/bartender/manager at Shea's Restaurant in Essax, Massachusetts.



Goofing around town!

Anything you would want people to know about you that we didn't hit yet?

I'm single (she laughs), and I'm not as intimidating as I seem. I love powerlifting and strongman; I love training and picking up heavy weights. It's what I like, and I would still lift if it didn't improve my body.

Jozi, thanks so much for your time. Now get on the treadmill so we can train!

Jozi's competition history includes the EFP, 100% RAW, and R.A.W. United. Her top lifts are 225 in the squat, 136 in the bench, and 300 in the deadlift. Jozi has also competed in Strongman, breaking Massachusetts State Records in the Cheat Curl, One-Arm Thompson Press (9 reps), and the Farmer's Walk. She started out in the SHW division, but has worked her way down to the 198s and is planning to compete in the 181s in her next meet (while getting stronger!).



Author Paul DeSimone accepting his award at the 100% RAW World Championships

If you would like to be interviewed for STRONG LIFE or any other magazine that I write for, please contact me at: pauldesimone01@aol.com. In addition, if you want training, nutrition, or supplement plans you can also contact me. Check out my youtube channel and my facebook page beefcake. Next month I will be interviewing who ever contacts me first - the race is on!

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY PAUL DESIMONE
TO CONTACT ME EMAIL <u>PAULDESIMONE01@AOL.COM</u>
CALL FOR COMPETITION, DIET, OR TRAINING INFO (978) 766-6280

2015 YOUTH & TEENAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday & Sunday, April 18-19, 2015 Sanctioned by R.A.W. United



Hosted by STRONG LIFE Training Facility
Melbourne, Florida

DOWNLOAD YOUR ENTRY AT:

www.StrongLife610.net

Entry Deadline: Saturday, March 14, 2015
Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

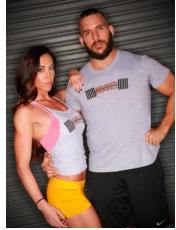
More Information: 321-505-1194 or rawunitedinc@gmail.com





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(941)993-1227

SarasotaBarbell@gmail.com



THE STRONG SHOT

RAW lifters are encouraged to send their best picture to *The Strong Shot* at rawunitedinc@gmail.com, and all featured lifters will receive a free shirt from STRONG LIFE magazine. Congratulations to John Hallman for sending us the October 2014 photo for *The Strong Shot*!



JOHN HALLMAN TAKES 600 INTO THE HOLE AT THE NORTH AMERICANS!

GOTTA LOVE THOSE BEARDS!

CONTEST SCHEDULE: 2014 - 2015

"If anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules."

2 Timothy 2:5

NOVEMBER 2014

November 15

STRONG LIFE Invitational * R.A.W. UNITED STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, FL

Entry deadline: Saturday, October 25 Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

Contact info: rawunitedinc@gmail.com * 321-505-1194

DECEMBER 2014

December 6

Christmas Classic & Virginia State Single Lift (Bench, Deadlift, Strict Curl) * 100% RAW

Best Western, Zion Crossroads, VA

Meet Director: John Shifflett Contact info: valifting@aol.com

December 13

Last Chance to get a Total in 2014 * R.A.W. UNITED STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, FL

Entry deadline: Saturday, November 22 Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

Contact info: rawunitedinc@gmail.com * 321-505-1194

December 20

Thunderbird Winter Classic * R.A.W. UNITED

Thunderbird Gym * Monessen, PA Entry deadline: Saturday, November 29

Meet Director: Dave Lhota Contact info: 814-521-9182

JANUARY 2015

January 24-25

Mike Witmer Memorial Open & Florida State Championships * R.A.W. United

Strong Life Tampa Bay * Tampa, FL Entry deadline: Saturday, January 3 Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

Contact info: rawunitedinc@gmail.com * 321-505-1194

FEBRUARY 2015

February 21

Gary Gordon Memorial Police, Firefighter, & Armed Forces Championships

STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, FL

Entry deadline: Saturday, January 31 Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

Contact info: rawunitedinc@gmail.com * 321-505-1194

February 22

Support the Troops Open

STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, FL

Entry deadline: Saturday, January 31 Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

Contact info: rawunitedinc@gmail.com * 321-505-1194

APRIL 2015

April 18-19

Youth & Teenage Championships

STRONG LIFE Training Facility * Melbourne, FL

Entry deadline: Saturday, March 14 Meet Director: Spero Tshontikidis

Contact info: rawunitedinc@gmail.com * 321-505-1194

MORE TO COME!!!



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R.A.W. UNITED FEDERATION UPDATE

"The way of the Lord is strength for the upright." Proverbs 10:24

THANKS

Needless to say, we are both STOKED and HUMBLED by the Federation's growth this year, and look forward to all God has planned for us in the 2015 powerlifting season!

Many, many thanks to our Board members - Bob Gaynor and Bill Beekley – for their selfless service to both R.A.W. United and the world's strongest sport! More thanks to our State Chapter Leaders – Kevin Prosser (Maryland), Paul DeSimone (Massachusetts), Dave Lhota (Pennsylvania), and Jon Drummond (Texas) – for fueling the growth of our Federation! And more thanks to our Federation Chaplain – Paul Simmons – for keeping our eyes fixed on the Lord! And even more thanks to all the lifters that have helped out at our meets, serving as judges,

loaders, scorers, etc.! Your support and friendship is so greatly appreciated!

After we close out the year with four Florida meets and two in Pennsylvania, 2015 will begin with the resurgence of the Mike Witmer Memorial Open & Florida State Championships at Strong Life Tampa Bay. Look forward to seeing you on the platform!

WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, EMAIL

If you are reading this update, you already know that our new website address is www.strongLife610.net. In addition, you can like us on Facebook page at Spero Tshontikidis for federation updates and events at STRONG LIFE TRAINING FACILITY. Finally, you can contact us via email at rawunitedinc@gmail.com or by phone at 321-505-1194.



Who knew loading could be so much fun!



MANY THANKS TO

DAYE BATES & JOHNNY YASQUEZ

OF

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FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF

STRONG LIFE!

PAUL'S PROSE, PRAYER, & PRAISE: THE POWER OF TEAM

By Chaplain Paul Simmons

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

R.A.W. United is growing, and with that comes growing pains. Some of you in the R.A.W. United family may not be aware of the expansion the Federation undergone this year, pushing beyond Florida's borders and into the states of Maryland, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Texas. With this growth, Spero has been expanding the leadership base by delegating state responsibilities to State Chapter Leaders. These folks have built up their contests staff personnel and are planning, scheduling, and hosting events without the "physical" support from the National Office. This reality can be somewhat scary after functioning as a Florida-based organization for nearly seven years. That said, there is a "Power Principle" found in the Scriptures to support this type of arowth.

Once Moses had safely led the people of Israel out of Egypt and the slavery they had lived under for so long, the burden of judging all of the people's disagreements became too much for him to handle. When Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, observed his son-in-law's frustration and exhaustion, he told Moses in Exodus 18:17: "The thing that you are doing is not good. You will surely wear out, both yourself and these people who are with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone." Jethro then directed Moses to keep his connection to God strong and to make that his focus, and then convey those truths that God reveals to a group of devoted followers who would be entrusted to judge the people's issues. Moreover, Jethro gave Moses a detailed

system that would break down the nation into manageable increments. Jethro's final words of wisdom, found in Exodus 18:23, were: "If you do this thing and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people will go to their place in peace."

This system of "Powerful Teamwork" was successful for many years, and will be successful for R.A.W. United. There is power in teamwork, and it builds a stronger and healthier community. During this time, we need to bond together and pray for the R.A.W. United leadership team and our State Chapter Leaders. Here is a guide to help you:

Powerful God and Creator, we praise Your Holy Name.

Thank You for blessing R.A.W. United with such amazing growth, and as we continue to grow, please guide Spero and the leadership team to make wise decisions.

Lead them so that You are glorified, and R.A.W. United becomes the most impactful federation for You in our sport.

We give You all the praise and honor for what You are going to do, and ask that You use the R.A.W. United family to make Your light shine brightly as a witness to the entire powerlifting community.

In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for R.A.W. United lifter Kris Clark. Kris is battling esophageal cancer and we appreciate your thoughts and prayers!



Please pray for Gavin Leiba; Gavin is battling leukemia and we greatly appreciate your thoughts and prayers.



PRAYER REQUESTS:



Please pray for Pennsylvania State Chapter Leader Dave Lhota; Dave recently lost his mom.

Please pray for STRONG LIFE Secretary Bill Beekley. Bill is recovering from recent shoulder surgery.

Please pray for Edith "The E-Train" Traina of the Bill Beekley Academy of Powerlifting. Edith had a recent fall, broke her wrist, and is recovering from surgery.

Please pray for Denise Kalvan; Denise is the mom of GIRLS GONE STRONG lifter Emma Kalvan, and is recovering from heart surgery.

Please pray for Bob Dahlhamer who is recovering from vertigo; Bob thanks everyone for their prayers and support!

Please pray for R.A.W. United lifter Chuck Miller who recently accepted a new position in the state of Hawaii. We wish Chuck Godspeed, and look forward to seeing him in the fall!

Please pray for the brave men and women serving on the front lines defending the freedoms we cherish as Americans.

Please send your Prayer Requests to STRONG LIFE at rawunitedinc@gmail.com



PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD!

"Finally, my brothers, be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Ephesians 6:10-13

THE REAL



YSIAMOITULDVESI