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**21<sup>st</sup> Annual**  
**GRANITE STATE OPEN**



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**BODYBUILDING ~ FIGURE ~ BIKINI CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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~ Sanction: WNBFA Amateur/Pro Qualifier ~

*The 2014 20<sup>th</sup> Annual GSO in review~*

The 2014 Granite State Open, our twentieth annual bodybuilding, figure and bikini competition, experienced many wonderful changes this year. With a new alliance as an INBF sanctioned event (now WNBFA Amateur) and WNBFA Pro Qualifier, we evolved into higher attendance, broader exposure, and a stronger network of athletes than ever before. The Granite State Open, a.k.a. "GSO", draws participants from everywhere in New England and beyond. Many of these fabulous competitors enjoyed our October 25<sup>th</sup> venue plus qualified for the Internationally recognized WNBFA World Championships, held in Boston on November 15<sup>th</sup>. So much excitement, so many brilliant physiques!

This 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year featured a great deal of consistency with our primary sponsors and amenities. Special thanks to the Anchorage Inn and Suites in Portsmouth for housing our visitors, providing a fine establishment for check in, Drug screening and tanning services and always being generous with rates. Leah Rogers and the crew from Tres Soleil Bronzing do a top-notch job at coloring our competitors both in advance and on site the day of the show. They brought our folks from alabaster to cocoa, which looked splendid as the athletes took the stage. We were psyched to have our return and loyal vendors in What Winners Wear attire, Maximum Nutrition, Integrated Fitness, JJS photography, GSO competition t-shirts and 5 Hour energy. Thanks to the Hotel Portsmouth for accommodating our photography team. Yummy noises were heard as many enjoyed the fine foods at the renown Gaslight in downtown Portsmouth. The overall pack bags provided by Wozniak Law Group were a big reward to the Pro card earners. Please look at our GSO sponsor page for the kind sponsors who made the day and honor their businesses year round. This network is a small world and we are grateful to the ever present goodie bags and support of Joel and Justin at Max Nutrition. It was fun to present them with a specialty award for TEN years of continued sponsorship!!

Joining the Turtle Team this season was the vivacious and experienced stage handling of Mr. Scott Holts, lovingly known as Old Navy. Hailing from Birmingham, Alabama Scott came to MC for us. He also held up the judges table with the bevy of regional professionals that rounded out our fair and esteemed panel. Thank you Scott! Be sure to check out his show next 7/11/15, the NGA Natural Alabama and Old Navy Pro.



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135 places were taken on this day. As the day unfolded, our participants were totally on their respective games in a timely and well-expedited line up. From check in to the overall awards, everyone was taken care of by the extremely well honed skills of the Turtle Team crew. We are ever indebted to Johnny and Pearl Phillips for their days of service. Thanks too to the gang of volunteers from Fit Body Transformations, a stellar crew!

Kicking off the prejudging: a beautiful array of figure competitors took the stage and wowed the audience with their spotless preparation. Poise, posture, style, grace, tone, conditioning, athleticism and physical balance were critiqued to bring the division titles to: Novices Abigail Lundborn and Sophie Browne. The latter took the overall and went on throughout the autumn season to have a streak of top awards. The Masters Women, defied age with sharpness, experience and muscle maturity. Beth Couture, alumni of the GSO, returned to finally win the overall Master's Division, and earn her WNBF Pro Card! In the Open, sleek lines and well-honed stage presence brought Jennie Laurent to the same Pro Card status, with a kickoff to a great showing in continued WNBF venues.

From Beauty to Brawn, the room erupted with enthusiasm for this promoters favorite division: Bodybuilding women and men. A fine, fine, fine turnout of high quality competitors vied for top-notch titles this year. First, the ladies Novice: Coral Kouch won her class and earned the most fun award of the event: the real granite Best Poser. These awards are given to each Bodybuilding division and are hand carved into the shape of the Granite State of New Hampshire. A creative and endearing Esperenza LaLinde took the Master's Women Division, earned her Pro card and thrilled the audience with her Flamingo style movements. Danielle Osterhaus won the Master's Best Poser.

An absolutely tremendous field of women filled the stage, from light to heavyweights. Ruth Hushour transcended the petite group with hardness and style. As she came up against the bigger and taller Danielle Osterhouse, Ruth pushed through with experience and separation to take the Open Division Pro Card, as well as the best poser for Open. It was so much fun to see these gals represent Bodybuilding so gracefully, and to encourage their natural careers. Fortunately, the same call for ladies was heard nationally, as 30 women took the stage in Boston at the World's, a plethora of perfect physiques!

The men superceded the ever growing competitive quality that is always seen at the GSO. It was an honor to witness newcomers to Pros to be, returning alumni and friends of the season all work with sportsmanship and common courtesy throughout the show. Ben Chevalier won the novice as a well muscled and poise prepared newbie. Defying age and using it to their advantage, well honed and mature Maters Men proved that "we are not getting older, we are getting better"., In the 40+ Masters, a returning Mr GSO Title holder Martin Ortiz cleaned house in the well matched size and density field. Right next to him, Steve Higgins presented condition and



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personal style remarkably well, taking the Masters Best Poser award. See the results page to recognize so many other fairly placed gents. In the 50 and over, one of our favorite returning athletes and gregarious colleague, Glen Nazarian came in shredded and enthusiastic. He competed with a full array of massive men to earn his 50mplus Pro Card.

The Open Men's classes rocked this year...incredible completeness, balance, polish and competitiveness reined throughout all weight groups. Best Poser was admirably earned by the phenomenal and creative styling of Peter Munoz Bennett. Our lightweight winner: Jason Krawczyk. Middleweight: Martin Ortiz. Light Heavy: Charles Pearson and Heavyweight Amadeau Gomes. With dozens of pounds, decades of age and a foot of height variance between these four class takers, the overall Pose down was a run for the title of Mr. Granite State Open. No one was surprised when the sheer mass, leg sweep, comprehensive muscle quality and impeccable posing allowed Martin Ortiz the title. We are thrilled to honor champion Martin Ortiz and send him with the Overall Men's GSO title on to the World's in Boston. There he continued his record-breaking streak and won his class as a new pro.

Are you thinking of a Fall, 2015 competition? Be it first time out or going for a Pro Card, we welcome you. The WNBFB is featuring new Novice only venues and the Worlds will be in Atlantic City this year. Plan accordingly and join us across the board for some of the regions best and beautiful physique competition. It's a Natural flow and an opportunity to hang with the finest folks in the Northeast arena of Physique.  
See you on stage!

Laura "Ms. Turtle" Tourtellot  
Promoter of the GSO  
New England and Northern New York Director/ WNBFB  
National Judge



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