FROM THE EDITOR
Joan Mickelson Gaughan (Rasht/Lahijan, 1964-66)

Salaam!! Khosh amadi!!

You may notice that this issue of KhabarNameh is coming to you almost on the heels of the last one in June. The reason for that is to remind you that the deadline for registration for the Annapolis conference is coming up really, really soon.

You may also notice a sense of urgency in Carolyn Yale’s column (page 2) as she reminds us that a majority of Americans have an unfavorable view of Iran. That, and Congress’ inclusion of Iran along with Russia and North Korea in its recent decision to enhance sanctions, suggests that the PCIA’s mission to preserve our Legacy becomes inseparable from its twin mission of Advocacy.

Jeannette Gottlieb (page 3) suggests in her “Welcome” that while the Annapolis conference may be about comparing gray hairs, wrinkles and cellulite—worthwhile as that is—it will also be a vehicle to examine where we have come and where we are going in terms of finishing the job we started in Iran and which has become more challenging than ever...that is, building bridges of understanding and friendship.

The depth of those bonds both with Iranians and with our fellow Americans is highlighted in two lovely stories by Genna Wangsness. One, in Where Are They Now? (page 5), describes her encounter at the Austin Conference with an American friend; the other, oddly, is in In Memoriam (page 9) where the impact of a long friendship with an Iranian scholar is commemorated by Tom Ricks.

On a much lighter note, Dave Devine’s Recollections column (page 4) carries a story by Paul Levering who describes what it was like to be at the mercy of Iranian medicine. The two books reviewed in Mary Marks’ Books column (page 6) remind us that whatever difficulties Iranians have faced, they usually find a way to poke fun at their oppressors.

Three regular columnists continue themes introduced in earlier issues. Cameron Cross has already introduced the work of the film director, Abbas Kiarostami, but unless you’re a devoted Kiarostami follower, you may not have heard of any of his films produced before the Revolution. Nonetheless, he was indeed beginning his career as a director. Cameron continues his examination of both his early and his late work in the Nema-Ye Nazdik (page 7).

In his Sha’ehri column, Mostafa Rahbar also continues a theme started earlier in his discussion of Iran’s ‘Sha’eri no’ (“new poetry”) by highlighting two works of Ahmed Shamlu. Finally, “Rom Rom” continues his discussion of the zurkhaneh in his Trivia Corner which is on its way to become less trivial.

So, gentle reader, befarma’id!

Comments, submissions or suggestions for articles? Please contact Joan Gaughan at joan@peacecorpsiran.org.
FROM THE PRESIDENT
Carolyn Yale (Shiraz, 1974-76)

Advocacy for Understanding

It seems to be my habit to wait—and unfortunately force others such as our editor, Joan Gaughan, to wait—until I decide the subject matter for my newsletter piece. In the interim, all sorts of suggestions come my way. I sift through them, hoping that inspiration or a significant event comes to my rescue. In the case of this fall newsletter, it has been suggested that I once again encourage our members and readers to advocate for understanding with Iran and its people—not in the political sense so much as in conveying a sympathetic appreciation for the culture, history and prospects for renewed amity between our people.

This is, of course, especially important now when it is reported that so many people in the United States hold a very negative view of Iran and one that is so undeserved when it comes to the people themselves. It helps to look at this as a misunderstanding that can be corrected by personal contact within our communities, by sharing what we know and encouraging our neighbors to explore some of the good things that Iran has given us, even if it’s simply a favorite recipe and shared meals with our American and Iranian friends, an invitation to go to an Iranian film, a travel talk.

Looking forward to the Annapolis conference, we would also like to hear from those of you who have taken the initiative to become engaged at the local level because we want to compile these experiences and share them in a session [See bottom of page 3].

Now I have come to the decisive combination of inspiration and significant events. Let me preface this by noting the significance of mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani who, in her all-too-brief life, achieved such distinction both in her field and as a symbol of the incredible gains in education and women’s professional achievements in Iran. Her life made me think back to the last time I visited Iran, in 1999, for a solar eclipse. Our small group made a two-week science-based tour, stopping at a number of universities and colleges to meet with students, lecture and share our interest in solar research. In each locale, women comprised at least half of the students.

With us was an American high school student, Stephanie Lester, who took it upon herself to reach out to the women students in a way that the male scientists couldn’t. Imagine my delight and surprise to learn just recently that she is now the Director of Operations at the American Iranian Council. We’ve gotten back in touch and look forward to catching up on careers and direction. She reports that her trip to Iran that summer of 1999 was a turning point in her appreciation of Iran—as it was for several others on the tour for whom Iran was a new experience. You may read Stephanie’s personal story at http://www.payvand.com/news/17/aug/1016.html.

There are others from that group traveling for the eclipse whose perspectives were significantly changed by the experience. But those stories will come in another byline. My point is that nothing is more effective than personal contact, and that even if travel to Iran is at this time limited, we have many opportunities in this country to reach out and make a difference. I believe this is done readily not by arguing but by simpler and far less stressful means: shifting the conversation to topics—culture, family, travel and so forth—that are inviting rather than threatening, and sympathetic rather than confrontational.
WELCOME TO THE ANNAPOLIS CONFERENCE (OCT. 29–NOV. 1, 2017)

By Jeanette Gottlieb (Mowshir, Hamadan, 1965-67)

As we wrap up planning, we are very excited about the conference and look forward to seeing many of you in Annapolis, MD. With the theme “Preserving our Legacy and Advocating the Future,” the sessions offer layers of engagement. We are responding to some of the requests from the Austin meeting and from the members of our Advocacy Committee. Those interested in Advocacy will find up-dates on current Iranian-American relations, a workshop on crafting a compelling story, a session on international partnerships and exchanges and a how-to session for going forward.

On the Legacy side, we continue to update our knowledge of Iran today, learn to tell our story effectively, share our writings, remember events of the post Peace Corps years, learn about archiving and engage in a workshop on community activities.

There will be several exciting highlights of the conference. One will be the Sunday evening reception co-hosted by the Iranian-American Cultural Society of Maryland, which will include music, dance and poetry. On Monday morning, our first panel will feature John Limbert, Trita Parsi and Barbara Slavin. Then Dr. Fatemeh Keshavarz of the Roshan Institute at the University of Maryland will lead a panel titled The Cyber Crossroads: Poetry, Performance and the Visual Arts in Present Day Iran.

There are also two optional tours available for conference attendees: on Sunday, to the historic Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse and on Wednesday morning to the Naval Academy.

In addition to an exciting conference, Annapolis has much to offer its visitors. We hope to see all of you there and that you will join us to lift a glass in Ben Franklin’s favorite watering hole.

Constructive Advocacy: What Has Worked for You?

Our wrap-up session at the Annapolis conference will explore ways that we can advocate for peaceful relations between Iran and the USA and how we can engage with our own local communities to build understanding. Many of you have been engaged in these activities for years. You can help us to make this session a success by telling us about programs or exchanges that have been successful for you. To do this, please send a brief description of your activities with your name and contact information to jeanette@peacecorpsiran.org by September 10, 2017. It is our plan to develop an on-line resource for PCIA members following this conference.

Registration Now Open

Peace Corps Iran Association Conference and Reunion
“Preserving the Legacy and Advocating the Future”

Oct. 29–Nov. 1, 2017

Loews Hotel Annapolis, MD

- Updated program information at www.peacecorpsiran.org (click on the blue box with “Annapolis”).
- Use the mail-in registration form on the last page of this issue.
RECOLLECTIONS
Edited by Dave Devine (Zahedan, 1971-73)

Medical Misadventures
By Paul Levering (Dezful, Kerman, Mashhad, 1964-67)

Handing me a scalpel, the young intern said with a show of confidence, “O.K., you do it.” Thus began the first of three memorable experiences I had at the Christian Hospital in Mashhad during my sports program year extension beginning in June 1966.

Having broken glass lodged in the bottom of my left foot, I visited the hospital and the intern was assigned to remove it. After he cut out several chunks, he pronounced the minor medical procedure successfully completed. When I insisted he had failed to remove all the glass, we suddenly fell into an infantile “did so–did not” back and forth. That is when he gave me the scalpel and said I should dig away myself. So I promptly leveraged out the final chunk but before I could properly gloat about my “I-told-you-so” victory, the intern was out the door.

My next hospital visit had a small, young nurse administering an injection with a needle that broke off in my butt. Try as she might, she was unable to retrieve the stubborn needle. She had me lay face down on a gurney and summoned the aid of a brawny male assistant. But even with his help, the uncooperative needle stayed put. Finally, after a leisurely trip to the basement, the husky male attendant returned with a pair of pliers. Voila—problem solved.

Due to a robust case of pleurisy (lung membrane inflammation), I was confined to the hospital for five wintry days. Dr. Robert Eaton, the father of volunteer Richard Eaton (Tabriz, 1962-64) whom I have met, suggested I make a short appearance at a party being hosted at the nearby American consulate. At the party, I surprisingly learned I was scheduled to compete in a boxing tournament in a few days. Forsaking my warm hospital room and the oh-so-nice nurses, I checked out early in order to sharpen my timing and focus in a frigid, stinking gym.

At the weigh-in for the match, I learned I had lost six pounds. While waiting to be called to the ring, a janitor friend informed me with astonishment that I was “very, very white.” As I climbed up the ring stairs and through the ropes, my balance and coordination felt zombie-like.

Once in the ring, I recognized my opponent as an eight-consecutive knockout winner. He eyed me steadily with intense seriousness. But thanks to a serious flaw in his fight strategy, I was able to sleepwalk to a fireworks free, ho-hum decision victory.

Rather than euphoria, I felt glum relief. After receiving a short, lukewarm round of applause, I bicycled back through the winter air to my small, dim room in the dense, dark bazaar maze that jumbled around the towering, brightly lit golden dome of the Holy Imam Reza shrine.

One of Paul’s students in Dezful, Ezzat Goushegir, has provided an account of meeting “Mr. Paul” in Dezful and then her successful effort to locate him fifty years later in the United States. Her story can be found on the PCIA web site, www.peacecorpsiran.org.

PCIA AUTHOR REA KEECH FEATURED AT IRANIAN CULTURAL EVENT

Rea Keech (Tehran, 1967-69) was invited to present his, _A Hundred Veils_, a novel inspired by his experience as a Peace Corps English teacher at the University of Tehran. He spoke at the Anne Arundel County Public Library in Crofton, MD, during an Iranian Cultural Immersion Night, August 7th.

The musical group, Persian Arts & Cultural Communities (PACC), enriched the program with poetry by Rumi and authentic Iranian music.

Keech was joined by his Tehran roommate, Mostafa Rahbar. Doug Meyer (Semnan, Karaj, 1967-68) and Skip Auld (Mahallat, 1973-75) were also in attendance.

Read more at: https://tinyurl.com/yczazlwx
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
By Genna Stead Wangsness (Tehran/Shiraz, 1965-71)

Peace Corps Iran Association conferences present us with the opportunity to connect with former volunteers, friends, colleagues, staff, trainers and others affiliated with the Peace Corps in Iran. Beginning in 2011, PCIA gatherings have been held coast to coast in Portland, OR, Boston, MA, and Austin, TX. The upcoming fourth biennial conference in Annapolis, MD, entitled “Preserving the Legacy and Advocating the Future,” is PCIA’s latest staging of such a venue.

Among the attendees at the last PCIA conference in Austin in May of 2015 was a member of the Peace Corps Iran extended family—Elizabeth “Eliza” Bird. I had the pleasure of spending time with Eliza, including a day-trip to the nearby city of Georgetown, where Eliza, Shahla Dorry, Roger Wangsness and I ran across a local theater’s afternoon performance of Chicago and by pure luck were offered the director’s seats for purchase! The performance was outstanding and made our trip memorable. Memories are what reunions and conferences are all about.

Delighting in a decades-old relationship with Iran PCVs, Eliza Bird’s love for Peace Corps originated with her parents, Jackson and Phyllis Bird who worked as Presbyterian Church missionaries and as English teachers in Tehran and Hamadan on and off for the decades encompassing 1956–1976. With the arrival of Peace Corps in the 1960s, their lives were enriched and deepened; in return, they opened their doors and their hearts to volunteers. They loved having the “Peace Corps kids” over, helping them deal with cultural problems, feeding, entertaining and housing them. As Paul Reedy (Hamadan, 1965-68, Tehran, 1970-73) recalls, they were “not in the Peace Corps but feeders and advisors of all volunteers in the Hamadan area...gave Thanksgiving dinners for us every year, kept Nancy Rinke’s (Hamadan, 1964-66) dog when she left.” When the mission hospital was closing, Jack arranged for Peace Corps to use the buildings and grounds to train English teachers, and when it closed down entirely, Jack was hired by the Oriental Carpet Company. With Phyllis teaching English, they continued to open their home to Hamadan volunteers.

Once retired and back in the U.S., they returned to the house they had rented on and off for twenty years in Berkeley, CA, and in the mid-80s they traveled to Europe and lived in France. Throughout their retirement years, they continued to entertain and visit Peace Corps and mission friends. Jack passed away in 1993 at age 76; Phyllis, in 2006, at age 87.

Eliza lived her formative years in Iran, spending her teen years in Tehran at a boarding school until she left Iran for college in 1968. Her brother Doug served with the Peace Corps in Turkey from 1968-70, an assignment that allowed him to occasionally return to Iran for visits with their parents. During her college years, Eliza often returned to Iran for visits and, following college graduation, she returned to teach English for Dr. Gertrude Nye-Dorry, a long-time friend of her parents, at Polytechnic University in Tehran, again enjoying friendships with volunteers. In 1975, after three years, Eliza left to follow her brother to law school. Now retired, she lives in Wilmington, North Carolina, welcomes contact from Peace Corps friends, old and new, and can be reached at elizafreebird@yahoo.com.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE INFORMATION
By Douglas Schermer, (Semnan, 1966-67) PCIA Treasurer

Register now for the Peace Corps Iran Association Annapolis Conference and Reunion scheduled for October 29 through November 1 at Loews Annapolis Hotel. The conference theme is “Preserving the Legacy and Advocating the Future.” Program information and registration forms are available at www.peacecorpsiran.org, which is updated regularly. Simply click on the blue box that says “Annapolis.”

We have a limited block of rooms available at a group rate that expires September 29th. Make your reservation at the hotel as soon as possible before this block fills up. The Loews reservation number is 800-235-6397. Be sure to mention Peace Corps Iran to get the group rate of $150 per night.
BOOKS

Edited by Mary Marks (Kerman, 1964-66)


The author of this novel is attempting to write a love story that will pass censorship by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance. His sense of humor is evident from the start as the girl and boy in love are named Sara and Dara after the characters in the first-grade Iranian primer. In the love story, presented in bold text, some parts are crossed out by the author himself, although they are still readable. Part of the fun of the book is reading these self-censored passages. For example, Sara is hiding under the sheets in her room having a computer chat with Dara. The words “under the sheets” are crossed out.

The majority of the book is in standard print. Here the author looks up from his Sara and Dara story and talks directly to the reader: “Contrary to this idiotic sentence that can only come from the pen of a writer who has been chewed to the bone by censorship ….” Once he asks the reader to delete the whole chapter he has just written.

The witty tone of the novel persists even in its condemnation of censorship, which is presented with a balanced understanding that might be surprising. Mandanipour’s novel shows how life for all Iranians changed with the revolution. But, just as his presentation of censorship avoids bitterness, he describes life in the Islamic Republic as oppressive yet perhaps not more so than oppressions suffered throughout Iran’s history under invasions by Mongols, Arabs and others. The novel’s wry humor shows what it takes to survive.


In August 1907, less than a year after the first Majlis in Persia’s modern history had drafted a constitution, Russia and Britain partitioned the country into two “spheres of influence.” The North, encompassing Tehran, was Russia’s; the South, which included suspected oil deposits, was Britain’s. The Agreement guaranteed that the two Powers “…must not violate the integrity and independence of Persia,” a clause significant only in its egregious violations.

Caught between a monarch who “hated and despised his subjects,” and a decades-long system of capitulations, bribes and concessions to court sycophants and foreign intriguers, the inexperienced Majlis was hard-pressed to survive, let alone govern. In June 1911, at its invitation, an American accountant, W. Morgan Shuster, arrived as Treasurer-General authorized to create a viable apparatus for collecting taxes and other revenues. His refusal, upon arrival, to call upon the British and Russian ministers made it clear that he was the servant of the Majlis alone. Thereby, he earned the hostility of those two legations. He would be forced to leave six months later when the Russians, with British acquiescence, destroyed his employer, the Majlis.

What he found on his arrival was chaos. There was no annual budget. The only department in the Ministry of Finance that dealt with actual money was the Imperial Mint and the Persian regular army was “a roosting place for the most brilliant galaxy of uniformed loafers.” The real villain, however, was the “international brigandage” of the British and, especially, the Russians for whom an independent Persia was a non-starter.

Although his story ends tragically, what emerges is the engaging personality of Shuster himself—a warm, intelligent, profoundly honest man with a deep affection for the people of Persia and a lively sense of humor.

*If you have suggestions of books to review, or would like to review books for this column, please contact Mary Marks: mary@peacecorpsiran.org.*
NEMA-YE NAZDIK (CLOSE UP)
Edited by Cameron Cross (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)

A Return to Drama

In 1977, Abbas Kiarostami directed *The Report (Gozaresh)*, a drama that follows the gradual breakdown of a marriage (even as he himself was getting divorced). The constraints imposed after the Revolution, however, made it difficult for him to revisit the theme of private relations between men and women. And so, it remained until the last years of his career, when he began making films abroad. His last two films, *Certified Copy* (2010) and *Like Someone in Love* (2012), offer a return to the topics he visited in *The Report* thirty-five years earlier.

*Certified Copy* is shot in Italy, starring Juliette Binoche and William Shimell; the principal languages are English and French. On first impression, one could never guess this to be an ‘Iranian’ film. Perhaps it is not, but Kiarostami’s signature touches are everywhere; long conversations in the car, where the passing reflections on the windshield tell us as much about the characters as the dialogue; meticulous frame-within-a-frame compositions; and finally, an unexpected ‘twist’ that causes us to question the reality of everything we have seen before. This ‘twist’ is not of the Hollywood variety: you won’t realize it’s happened until long after the fact.

*Like Someone in Love* is about family, honor, and, yes, love. It is shot in Japan and may even surpass *Taste of Cherry* for some of the best cinematography we have seen from the director. While it too begins with what seems a conventional plot—kindly old man befriends struggling girl and helps her sort out her life—the story does not resolve itself quite how we might have expected it to, and indeed, the hints, allusions and implications expertly seeded into the script might make you wonder if these people are at all who you thought they were.

Kiarostami’s turn towards feature-film drama offers a fascinating example of the intersection between ‘Iranian’ and ‘world’ cinemas, providing food for the brain as well as for the eyes and perhaps causing us to question what we thought we knew about these labels as well.

PEACE CORPS IRAN GROUP 16
50th Reunion – August 5-6, 2017

Marilyn Hickerson Erickson (Tehran, 1967-69) organized a reunion for Iran 16 at her home in Greenfield, MA, August 5-6. Those in attendance included Harvey Ollis (Nagadeh, Shiraz, 1967-69), Dave and Karen Rooney (Kazeroon, Shiraz, 1967-69), Jeff Curtis (Somehsara, Qeshm, 1967-70), Andrew Engleman (Ferdows, Sari, 1967-69), Andrea Engleman, Val Schultz (Ahar, Hamadan, 1967-69), Mary Fiscus (Tehran, 1967-69) and Don Fiscus. Others in the group who were unable to attend include Don Wendel, Dave Colley, Richard Wheelock, Nancy DeFreytas Benham, Barry Rosen and Dennis Briskin.

In addition to viewing photos and exchanging stories, the group traveled to the Sandanona campus of the Center for International Living in Brattleboro, now known as the World Learning Center.
SHA’ERI
By Mostafa Rahbar (University of Tennessee)

Ahmad Shamlu (1925-2000)

We stand
Outside time
With a bitter dagger
In our backs
No one speaks with no one
For silence
With a thousand tongues
Speaks
Ahmad Shamlu

Nima Yushij, the father of modern Persian poetry she’re no, attracted several disciples, who later were recognized and respected as the most influential poets. Nima’s house was frequented by these forerunners of modern Persian poetry—poets such as Hooshang Ebtehaj, a.k.a the Hafez of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, Siyavosh Kasraei, Ahmad Shamlu, Mehdi Akhavane Sales, among others. All these poets were well-versed and articulate in Persian classical poetry as well.

Shamlu not only wrote she’re no in the fledgling style and the framework of modern poetry but also created and wrote she’re sepid, which literally means white poetry, free verse with an elegant flow that sounds deceptively simple, but even some skillful poets have confessed their inability to produce such seemingly easy poetry. Shamlu’s main theme was freedom and political issues.

Shamlu’s poetic and literary vision accords with western modernist concepts. He was not only a poet; he was truly a Renaissance man and a prolific writer. He wrote seventy books. The following are his publications: sixteen volumes of poetry, five anthologies of poetry, five volumes including novels, short stories and screenplays, nine volumes of children’s literature, nine translations of poetry into Persian, twenty-one novels translated into Persian, five collections of essays, lectures and interviews and ten volumes (to date) of The Book of Alley—ketabe kuché.

The following is an English translation of one of his poems. Unfortunately, I don’t know the name of the translator.

Mist

Mist has blanketed the desert all over.
The village lights are out.
A warm wave pulsates through the desert arteries.
Weary
Tightlipped
Breathless
The desert slowly perspires from every pore in the delirium of the mist.

“Mist has blanketed the desert,” says the passerby to himself.
The village dogs are quiet.
Hidden in the dervish cloak of mist
I will reach home
Golku doesn’t know
She will see me suddenly at the threshold
In her eye a tear, on her lips a smile
She will say, “Mist has blanketed the desert all over”
I say to myself if the mist lasts like this until daytime
Bold men will return from hiding places to their loved ones.

Mist has blanketed the desert all over.
The village lights are hidden.
A warm wave pulsates through the desert arteries
The desert
Weary
Tightlipped
Breathless
Slowly perspires from every pore in the delirium of the mist.
IN MEMORIAM
By Genna Stead Wangsness (Tehran/Shiraz, 1965-1971)

Professor Amir Hassanpour died on Saturday, June 24, 2017, at Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, Canada. Born in 1943 in Mahabad, Iran, Professor Hassanpour was a prominent Iranian Kurdish scholar and researcher on the survival of Kurdish history and culture and the standardization of the Kurdish language. At the time of his death, he was Associate Professor at the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations at the University of Toronto. This obituary lists his many accomplishments:
www.kurdishacademy.org/?q=node/56.

Professor Hassanpour was a friend and colleague of Tom Ricks (Mashhad, Mahabad, 1964-66), a friendship that spanned fifty-three years from the time they met in Mahabad. Below is an excerpt from the memorial for Professor Hassanpour by Tom Ricks. The complete document is at: https://tinyurl.com/y9zolauv.

We got to know each others’ families. I knew his parents and all of his five brothers and one sister many of whom are dead or living in Sweden or the U.S., as he got to know my parents and four brothers and one sister. He was extremely well-informed about many topics, gentle and humorous at the same time. I consider him my brother and now he is gone. His reach was international. He was a thorough academic and an activist, proud of his Middle East heritage and legacy. I hope you enjoy my memories of a wonderful and scholarly gentleman with an army of students and dear friends. There is to be a memorial for him next March 18, 2018, on the University of Toronto campus.

In addition to reporting on recent deaths, PCIA maintains a memorial book of the deceased. If you know of anyone who has died, have memories of anyone who served in Iran or further information that you would like to share, contact Genna Stead Wangsness at genna@peacecorpsiran.org. We welcome comments for publication.

TRIVIA CORNER
By “Rom Rom”

Varzesh-e Bastani

Before he even enters the zurkhaneh, the prospective athlete is made to realize that physical training is inseparable from moral training and that both require effort, discipline and humility. The building is deliberately difficult to find. It is normally a non-descript structure situated in a modest or even rundown neighborhood. The athlete must humble himself to locate it. He must ask for directions, thus forcing him to engage with the inhabitants of the neighborhood and reminding him of his dependency on others who may not be as strong or wealthy or handsome as he is.

The entrance, or dar, reinforces the sense of spiritual discipline. It is unadorned and so low that even a moderately tall man must stoop to enter. He is thereby reminded of his proximity to the earth and of his obligation to bend toward those who are less exalted or less strong than he is.

Residents of Los Angeles may be able to locate a zurkhaneh named for Pooria Vali, a fourteenth century Sufi, poet and undefeatable champion who deliberately lost a match to a poor lad named Mo’alegh who loved the daughter of a wealthy official. The official had refused to allow his daughter to marry Mo’alegh unless he could defeat the champion. Pooria Vali’s humility in allowing himself to lose to Mo’alegh is often cited as an example for all zurkhaneh athletes.

Our next segment will focus on the gowd or exercise area.
PCIA Conference and Reunion Mail-In Registration Form

September 29 is the deadline for registration. After that date, please add a $15 a late registration fee. Full refund of registration payment will be honored until September 29 with partial refunds after that date.

Contact Information (One form for each registrant)

Last Name ______________________________________________
First Name ______________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________
City_____________________________ State ____ Zip ________
Phone/Home ____________________ Cell __________________
Email __________________________________________________

[  ] I need special accommodations. Please describe on back.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteer? If yes, please describe on back.

Registration Details
(Please use one form for each registrant.)

[  ] FULL CONFERENCE – $150.................................. ________

PARTIAL CONFERENCE:
[  ] Sunday, October 29, reception ONLY – $25 ............ ______
[  ] Monday, October 30, ONLY – $75 ....................... ______
[  ] Tuesday, October 31, ONLY – $75 ....................... ______

OPTIONAL EVENTS:
[  ] Sunday, October 29 Lighthouse tour – $50............... ______
[  ] November 1, Naval Academy Tour – $10............... ______

DONATE TO THE CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP FUND:
[  ] Tax deductible donation to the scholarship fund ....... ______

[  ] Late Registration Fee after September 29 ($15) ........... ______

TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED ________

Check made out to PCIA is enclosed with registration form.

Please mail completed form and a check made out to “PCIA.”

Douglas Schermer, Treasurer
1040 Dakota Ave.
Wayland, IA 52654

For up-to-the-minute information about the conference, please go to www.peacecorpsiran.org

Peace Corps Iran Association promotes peace and understanding between Americans and Iranians; fosters appreciation of Iran in the U.S. through education, outreach, and advocacy; and preserves and shares the Iran Peace Corps legacy.