



April, 2023

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Upcoming PCIA Conference

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Lunchtime in the bazaar, Maragheh
Photo by Steve Horowitz (Maragheh, 1968-71)

From The Field - PCIA Board Newsletter

April 2023

“Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing, there is a field. I will meet you there.”

Jalal ad-Din Rumi

Understanding Iran Today: Fulfilling Our Mission, Ensuring Our Legacy

May 25 – 27, 2023 - Chicago Conference Update

Early Bird Registration Rate ends April 24!

Conference Registration News

We encourage you to bring someone with you. Registration rate for the second person on the same registration form is \$75 less. You can register by mail or online.

Registration Fees:

Early Bird -- before April 25

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| First Person | \$250 |
| Second Person | \$175 |

Regular – April 25 to May 14

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| First Person | \$300 |
| Second Person | \$225 |

Late – May 15 or later

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| First Person | \$350 |
| Second Person | \$275 |

Registration Fee Includes:

Thursday

- Thursday evening reception (with two drink tickets)

Friday

- Friday morning continental breakfast
- All morning unlimited coffee, tea, etc.
- AM break snack

- Box lunch at noon
- Admission to the Oriental Institute

and Saturday

- Saturday morning continental breakfast
- All day unlimited coffee, tea, etc.
- AM snack break
- Noon buffet
- PM snack break

How to register:

- [Click Here](#) for MAIL-IN registration form.
- If you have a PayPal account, you may register online using a credit card. [Click here](#) for the link to the ONLINE registration form.

- Do you have any dietary preferences or accommodation requests? If yes, please complete this Google Form by [Clicking Here](#).

- Scholarships to help with Registration Fees are Available. You can download the scholarship application form by [Clicking Here](#).

Hotel Information

We have a group hotel rate at The Study at the University of Chicago, located a few steps from the Rubenstein Forum, where the sessions will be held. To make a reservation at the group rate, please [Click Here](#).

Questions about the registration process? Please contact [Doug Schermer](#) (click on his name). For questions about the program, email [Jeanette Gottlieb](#) (click on her name).

See you in Chicago!

Shopping on Amazon?

Check out [AmazonSmile](#). It's a simple and automatic way to support PCIA, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same prices and shopping experience as at Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to PCIA.

Submit Your Photos

Each month, *From the Field* features a photo submitted by one of our members. We invite you to submit your own photos of Iran, from either your Peace Corps years or recent trips. Send to jackie@peacecorpsiran.org.

Thanks to everyone who has submitted recently, and keep `em coming!

Find Us on Facebook

For some time, we have had a lively Facebook group, with over 400 members. We post articles, photos, questions, and comments about Peace Corps in Iran or

Iran itself. We invite you to [click here](#) and ask to join. Be sure and answer the membership question you will see there. We will accept your request within a day or two, and you're in!

We also have a Facebook page, open to the whole world. [Located here](#), this is a public page that features news about Iran and PCIA. We add photos and videos regularly. The purpose of the FB page is to engage our visitors to consider Iran with a more complete and nuanced view, in the spirit of Peace Corps' Third Goal. Hope to see you participating in both of our Facebook venues. Invite your friends too!

We Accept Donations

Supporting PCIA with your donations is crucial to our success because we don't charge dues. Donations support our biannual conferences (our next one is planned for May 25-27, 2023, in Chicago), as well as our many other advocacy, legacy, civic engagement, publishing, and member connection projects. If you are proud of your Peace Corps experience and believe that PCIA leverages and amplifies your ideals and your voice as an RPCV, we invite you to donate as you are able, either through [PayPal](#) or by [printing this form](#) and mailing it with a check. We are grateful.

Membership

Membership in PCIA is free (no dues). We welcome everyone who shares our values of peace, diplomacy, cultural understanding, and preserving the legacy of Peace Corps Iran. Members do not need to have served in the Peace Corps or lived

in Iran. To become a member, [click here](#). You will find that you must first join the National Peace Corps Association (it's also free), and in doing so, you will then have the opportunity to join PCIA.

PCIA Mission Statement

Peace Corps Iran Association advances peace and understanding between Americans and Iranians through outreach, education, and advocacy, and upholds the legacy of Peace Corps in Iran. Adopted February, 2017.

Peace Corps Iran Association is a registered 501c3 nonprofit based in Portland, OR. We are affiliated with the National Peace Corps Association.

Title: *From the Field* comes from the Rumi quote at the top of each issue: "Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing, there is a field. I will meet you there." Jalal ad-Din Rumi. The idea is that PCIA is operating in a field that is outside of the conflict between our two governments as to who is right and wrong. In that field we meet all those who, like us, find the conflict detrimental and irrelevant in the friendship between the American and Iranian peoples. This newsletter is sent from that field.

PCIA Board

- [Jeanette Gottlieb](#), President (Noshahr, Hamadan, 1965-67)
- [Jackie Spurlock](#), Vice-President; Dooreh Co-leader; *From the Field* Editor (Abadeh, Riz/Zarrinshahr, 1974-76)
- [Ed Seiders](#), Treasurer (Noshahr, Chalus, 1967-69)

- [Marie Mitchell](#), Secretary (Mahallat, 1974-75)
- [Barb Deekle](#) (Zahedan, 1968-70)
- [Bill Brandon](#), Future of PCIA Task Force Co-Chair (Shiraz, 1964-66)
- [Brad Hanson](#), (Khaf, Shiraz, 1973-76)
- [Chuck Kaminski](#), Future of PCIA Task Force Co-Chair (Kermanshah, 1969-71)
- [Doug Schermer](#), Webmaster (Semnan, Shahrud, 1966-67)
- [Fraser Lang](#), (Isfahan, Tehran, 1968-70)
- [John Krauskopf](#), Anthology Editor (Ahwaz, Kermanshah, Arak, Babolsar, 1965-69)
- [John Salamack](#), Iran Issues Discussion Group Leader (Bojnurd, 1965-67)
- [Kerry Segel](#), (Khonsar, Isfahan, 1969-73)
- [Paul Barker](#), *Advocacy Bulletin* Editor (Bidokht, Shiraz, Tehran, 1971-76)

Other PCIA Leaders

- [Carolyn Yale](#), Board Member Emeritus and Future of PCIA Task Force Member-at-Large (Shiraz, 1974-75)
- [Genna Wangsness](#), Historian (Shiraz, Tehran, 1965-71)
- [Jim Goode](#), Dooreh Book Group Co-leader (Tuysarkan, 1968-71)
- [Joan Gaughan](#), *KhabarNameh* Newsletter Editor (Lahijan, Rasht, 1964-66)

About this email

You have received this email because you are a member of Peace Corps Iran Association or have an interest in Iran. If you do not wish to receive future issues of *From the Field*, please use the unsubscribe link in the footer.

Comments

We welcome your thoughts and feedback. Please submit to [**jackie@peacecorpsiran.org**](mailto:jackie@peacecorpsiran.org)

PCIA MISSION STATEMENT

Peace Corps Iran Association advances peace and understanding between Americans and Iranians through outreach, education and advocacy, and upholds the legacy of Peace Corps in Iran.

Adopted February, 2017.

PCIA CORE VALUES

- **Experience.** We value the experience and knowledge of Iran and its people that our members have acquired through Peace Corps. We seek to preserve and share the legacy of our experience. We believe the experience of living in another culture shaped our worldview and commitment to giving back.
- **Making a Difference.** We aspire to make a difference by speaking up in accordance with our mission and goals.
- **Diversity and Inclusion.** We value diversity of experience and opinion, and believe understanding is achieved through open mindedness, inclusiveness, and respectful dialogue.
- **Integrity, Accountability and Transparency.** We are accountable to our members and donors to ensure that our activities meet the highest ethical standards of organizational and personal integrity. We are good stewards of the time, talent, and treasure of our members and volunteers. We practice sound financial management. *Adopted, Feb. 2017*

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE PURPOSE STATEMENT

Peace Corps Iran Association advocates for peace and understanding through education, outreach, and cultural diplomacy. *Adopted Feb. 2017*

PCIA GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Understanding and acceptance of other people and cultures are the building blocks of friendship, inclusiveness and world peace. As citizens of a world power, Americans bear a special responsibility.

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2. Tolerance and mutual respect form the foundation for peaceful interactions between countries and their citizens.
 3. Bringing countries and their citizens into the global community through cultural and economic ties reinforces international cooperation and reduces the likelihood of armed conflict.
 4. Negotiation and diplomacy are essential to resolving international issues.
 5. Force is rarely justified in dealing with conflicts. Peace is built and sustained through voluntary agreement and consent.

The Principles will be used as guidelines for the Advocacy Bulletin and other advocacy activities. The board may speak for the Association in the sense of upholding our mission, values and principles. *Adopted June, 2017*

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|PEACE CORPS IRAN ASSOCIATION|

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