# S F B A R S San Francisco Bay Area Rug Society

#### **NEWSLETTER- SEPT 2016**

A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation\*

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### Saturday October 23, 4pm

Baluch Main Carpet Exhibit – ARTS
At the Capri Motel, 2015 Greenwich St.,
between Buchanan and Webster, SF

SFBARS is delighted to be a co-sponsor of a thematic exhibit of Baluch main carpets from private Bay Area collections. The exhibit will run throughout the ARTS event, Saturday, October 22nd to Sunday, October 23rd. 10:00am - 7:00pm, but SFBARS invites you to view it in the company of fellow members on Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Ben Banayan, SFBARS Board Member and Curator of the Exhibit will provide brief comments.

#### **Saturday October 21-23**

ARTS is Returning to San Francisco

Capri Motel, 2015 Greenwich St.

Now going into its eighth year, the Antique Rug and Textile Show (ARTS) in San Francisco is the largest show of its type focused exclusively on authentic antique rugs and textiles from weaving cultures from across the world and the highlight of the year for American rug enthusiasts. The informal often festive tone of the show allows for a comfortable environment in which to browse some of the best antique collectible rugs and textiles available on the market. ARTS has quickly become the premiere rug and textile event of the year and a vibrant gathering for collectors from across the world.

Last year ARTS included 30 international dealers, an exhibition of Kazak rugs from the Caucasus, cosponsored by SFBARS, and several public events including tours and seminars. For details and updates, including reservations for the Opening Reception on October 21, venue address, etc., go to:

http://sf.artsrugshow.org/

#### Sat. October 23, Time TBD

The Armenian Rug Society: Celebration / Short Program Krimsa, 2109 Union Street

Just a few blocks from the Capri Motel, site of the ARTS event. Please check the ARTS website for further details.

Register for the Opening: http://sf.artsrugshow.org/reception

### ARTS San Francisco

Antique Rug & Textile Show

October 21-23, 2016

Motel Capri, 2015 Greenwich Street, San Francisco, California



Opening Reception and Early Buying: Friday, October 21 Entry is \$25 through pre-registry on our website, www.artsrugshow.org or \$40 at the door.

ARTS is free and open to the public: Saturday, October 22 Sunday, October 23

The show will include leading international dealers, lectures, tours, and an exhibition of Baluch main carpets



Visit our website for further details... WWW.ARTSRUGSHOW.ORG

#### RECENT EVENTS

#### Fred Mushkat Talk at Krimsa

Dr. Fred Mushkat gave a fascinating talk, showcasing his extensive collection, on Weavings of Nomads in Iran: Warp-Faced Bands & Related Textiles,

Warp-faced weavings made by nomads in Iran are an oft- neglected aspect of their weaving culture. These utility weavings include bands made for decorating horses, camels, mules and for attaching cargo bags to pack animals. Bands were used in tents for structural support and decoration. Other warp-faced textiles include tent and transport containers. Warp-faced flatweaves were placed over bedding bags in the tent, placed on animals and used as floor coverings. The use of this technically difficult group of structures declined dramatically beginning about a century ago. Our heartfelt thanks to Renee Cocke and Paul Ramsay for their ongoing support of SFBARS and the Bay Area rug community in so generously hosting our events at Krimsa Gallery





Dr. Fred Mushkat shares his tent trappings from the Qashqaie nomads with the audience at Krimsa





#### Annual Jim Dixon Carpet Palace Gathering

SFBARS Members enjoyed the annual gathering at Jim Dixon's Carpet Palace and Gardens in Occidental. Many, many thanks to Jim for his generosity in hosting the event and challenging all of us with his thought-provoking show and tell. It was a wonderful day of carpets, conversations, food and flowers.











Peter Poullada introduces the carpet palace to new member Blair Blackwell

## **IN MEMORIAM** We note with regret that the Bay Area rug community has lost two important members.

The Bay Area rug community lost a lovely light, with the passing of **Araxi Bezdjian**, wife of Joe Bezdjian, long-time president of the Armenian Rug Society (ARS). Araxi was a very special woman, full of kindness and generosity. She made any occasion a celebration and a party. We enjoyed so many wonderful times at joint ARS/SFBARS events hosted at Joe and Araxi's rug company. She is sorely missed.



**Dr. Murray Eiland, Jr.** (1936-2016), M.D. in forensic psychiatry, was a world-renowned rug scholar, author, editor and one of the founders of SFBARS. Murray was also a leader in both the ICOC and ACOR international carpet and textile organizations.

Former SFBARS President Peter Poullada notes the following: 'Murray, with his brother Emmet, co-founded The Oriental Rug Company In North Berkeley in 1974, an early mecca for Bay Area collectors. His first important publication, Oriental Rugs: A Comprehensive Guide, was the Sine gua non bible for carpet enthusiasts in the U.S. in the 1970's and 1980's.



The latest, fourth edition (1998), co-authored with his son, Murray Eiland III, is still viewed as the most comprehensive and useful summation of all we know about oriental carpets and weavings. Over a 40 year period of involvement with the carpet and textile world, Murray authored numerous catalogs, edited journals, wrote careful and thoughtful scholarly articles, and acted as a mentor to so many in the field that it would take several pages to list all his contributions. On a personal note, it was Murray's not so subtle arm-twisting at a meeting in 2001 that brought me to take on the role of President of SFBARS (2002-20015). Murray was truly a seminal figure and leaves a large empty space in our carpet world."

An additional note from Hillary Dumas, SFBARS Board Member and personal friend of Murray: "The end of an era. Murray Eiland was one of very few rug scholars in a carpet world primarily made up of dealers and collectors. In the late 60's and early 70's collecting Oriental rugs was still a rare and exotic pastime. Murray's first carpet show was at the Berkeley art museum in 1973 called "Oriental rugs from Western Collections." The show dealt primarily with Turkmen rugs, and true to his scientific character he was interested in separating fact from fiction, demonstrating how a rug's construction told us more about where a Turkmen rug was from than did it's design.

I can't remember where I first met Murray, but it was probably in 1968 shortly before he and his brother Emmett opened the Oriental Rug Company in Berkeley. I would guess I probably ran into him at Butterfield and Butterfield auctions or perhaps at Birdshake's rug gallery. In those days it was a small rug world with few books on rugs and even fewer collectors. Information was not easy to come by and he always freely shared it. So in sharing a passion for Oriental rugs we became friends and fellow rug collectors. His first book "Oriental Rugs" was published in 1973.

He was also one of very few collectors who shared a love for Chinese rugs in the early 70's,

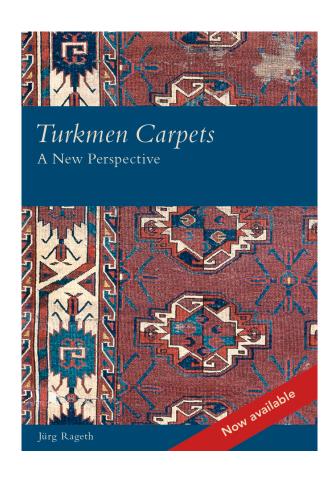
publishing "Chinese and Exotic rugs" in 1979. A list of some of his work is here: http://

www.spongobongo.com/no 9991.htm He will be missed!"

#### **OF INTEREST**

#### **New Insights on Turkmen Carpets**

Please see the attached article in this email from CARPET COLLECTOR magazine for some interesting reading, an interview with former SFBARS speaker Jurg Rageth of Basel, Switzerland, on Turkmen carpets and trappings (sorry, the cover rug turned blue when the PDV was downsized!) Jurg, a past speaker at SFBARS has been analyzing early examples of Turkmen carpets from several important German collections. He has specialized in dye analysis and dating of carpets and has developed theories about iconography that shed new light on this ever popular subject. His has recently published a two volume work, Turkmen Carpets, A New Perspective, in collaboration with Hans Christian Sienknecht, JanWouters, and InaVan den Berghe, an interdisciplinary study including radiocarbon dating, dye and mordant tests, and technical analyses as well as historical and art historical sources.



#### Contribute to the Textile Museum Journal

The museum is accepting submissions through
August 31 for The Textile Museum Journal, a leading
publication for the exchange of scholarship on
textiles from Asian, African, and indigenous
American cultures. Last issued in 2004, the journal
will resume annual publication in 2017 thanks to a
Founding Patron gift from the Markarian
Foundation. For information and guidelines on
submitting a manuscript based on original research,
please email tmjournal@gwu.edu.

#### SAVE THE DATE

San Francisco Tribal & Textile Arts Show Feb. 9-12, 2017

#### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

SFBARS would like to thank Karina
Nilsen and Nancy Sheppard for hosting
our most 2016 ACOR speakers. If you
are interested in hosting a speaker in
2017, please let Nancy Sheppard
nashesf@sbcglobal.net know.
Hosting involves arranging
accommodation (hotel or home),
coordinating schedule during visit, and
helping coordinate the event.
A wonderful chance to spend some
quality time with a textile expert!!!!