

Subject line: Carpet & Textile Forum 2023
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Rug Collectors' Weekend is back in 2023, but with a new name: Carpet & Textile Forum. We've made this change both in recognition of the breadth of our interests and because our gatherings no longer necessarily occur on the weekend. In addition to our traditional selection topics devoted to carpets, kilims, and trappings, there will indeed be sessions on textiles this year and in the future.

Next spring, we will convene once again at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott and our event will be held on **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday May 2-4, 2023**. We will start on Tuesday afternoon, with a wine reception preceding the opening of the Dealers' Show, which will be open into that evening. We'll devote Wednesday and Thursday to our usual mix of six topical sessions: Saltillo Serapis from the 18th century on; the Okbash, Gabbeh Rugs, Velvet Ikats, Salt Bags (over 30), Chuvals from the Amu Darya region.

and the Show-&-Tell. On Thursday evening, we're bringing back the very popular barbecue, where we all get to enjoy that special cuisine in each other's company.

Here's what you need to know to sign up:

- 1) **The registration fee for the event is \$190 per person.** This fee covers all planned events. To register with us, send your check in that amount, made out to Bethany Mendenhall, to: P.O. Box 6094 / Irvine, CA 92616. If you live outside the US and do not have a US checking account, you may pay us your fee in cash when you register, in order to avoid the expense of an international wire, but you must let us know that you expect to attend. Everyone else must register before the event.
- 2) **We have no group rate at the Marriott, so you must make your own hotel reservations.** The sooner you make your room reservations the cheaper the rate will be (it's just like airfares). Note that the Marriott's reservations website: <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-rooms/sbasy-santa-ynez-valley-marriott/>) opens automatically to show "prepay and save" rates that are less expensive but are non-refundable; click at the top left for the "standard most flexible" rates if you want the option to cancel.

At our several past gatherings, the Marriott has proved a most congenial atmosphere for collectors and dealer-collectors of rugs, kilims, bags, and textiles to share and discuss examples from their collections as they exchange ideas, experiences, and expertise. We do hope you will join us in a relaxed atmosphere among fellow enthusiasts for some days of rugs, food, and wine. Meanwhile, if you need more information from us, our contacts are:

Brian Morehouse: morehousebri@aol.com: Organizer
Bethany Mendenhall: bmendenhall@cox.net: Coordinator / Registration contact person
Stephanie Morehouse: stephmorehouse@aol.com: Hospitality