Director's Corner
Angela T. Baldree, MLS

Cambodia. Ah, Cambodia. There are so many things I can say about Cambodia. Let's start with the heat. Cambodians claim they have three seasons - hot, hotter, and hottest. I was there in the hotter season. April and May are the hottest. Based on the temperature in March, I cannot even imagine it being any hotter. I waited until sundown to walk two blocks to the night market. I spent about an hour at the market and walked back. I ran into some of my travel companions in the hotel bar and they asked if I had been swimming. Even with the sun down, the heat was intense enough to drench me in sweat. If you're wondering, October is the ideal time to visit.

The temples in Siem Reap were the reason for the trip. I spent about two hours at Angkor Wat followed by 90 minutes at Angkor Thom, where the first picture was taken. You can see how red my skin is and how wet my hair is. Angkor Wat is the most famous. Built in the early 12th century as a Hindu temple, it became a Buddhist temple by the end of the 12th century. Angkor Thom was built in the late 12th century as the capital city of the Khmer empire. It has 54 towers, each topped with four faces of Avalokiteshvara (the embodiment of Buddha) - 216 gigantic smiling faces.
The next day was spent at Ta Prohm Temple and Banteay Srei. Ta Prohm was built in the 12th and 13th centuries and the only one of the 53 temples in Siem Reap left in the condition in which it was discovered with trees and roots growing all around the structures. It was also featured in the movie *Tomb Raider*. Built in the 10th century, Banteay Srei is the only one of the temples built in a red sandstone. The sandstone is easily carved and much of the intricate detail remains today. One point of interest at Banteay Srei is the close-up carving at left. Most of the carvings in the temple are of items from daily life, which makes this particular carving interesting.

Khmer is the official language of Cambodia, and the Khmer script is the script used to write the Khmer language. The written script is beautiful and could be considered artwork in its own right. What follows are numerals 0 - 9: ■■■■■■■■■■■ The picture of a stop sign was too pretty to pass up.

In addition to the ruins, we spent a day at Choeung Ek, one of the killing fields in Cambodia. Almost 9,000 bodies were discovered at this site. We also spent an afternoon at a rural elementary school participating in their daily English lessons.

Cambodia was very special. Despite the heat and 20 hours of plane travel (one way), it was my favorite part of the entire trip. If you get the opportunity to go, take it.
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new books

Minnie Ozbeytemur

We recently added a few new books to our collection from the American Bar Association. These books include Estate Planning for the Muslim Client; Strategic Networking for Introverts, Extroverts, and Everyone in Between; The 2019 Solo and Small Firm Legal Technology Guide; and Representing People with Mental Disabilities: A Practical Guide for Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Estate Planning for the Muslim Client provides insight and understanding to Islamic law. With faith-based estate planning on the rise, the need for advisors who understand Muslim clients is growing. This book also includes sample forms and plans for assets that are in another country.

Author Carol Schiro Greenwald has written Strategic Networking for Introverts, Extroverts, and Everyone in Between with multiple behaviors in mind. Not only does she cover how to network with all different personality types, but she also writes for all types of learners. There are chapter summaries, charts and graphs, and plenty of worksheets.

The 2019 Solo and Small Firm Legal Technology Guide is an updated version of an annual guide. The new edition includes the latest recommendations for hardware and software, the best products for keeping sensitive data safe, and tips on how to safely access your data remotely.

And lastly, in Representing People with Mental Disabilities: A Practical Guide for...
Criminal Defense Lawyers, you're able to quickly and effortlessly learn how to deal with the challenges that are presented while acting on behalf of a client with mental disabilities.

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