



Hi!
Society

By MONET LU

Let's hear it for the girls! - Dr. Frieda Brookshire, Angeli Lacson and my new OC friends

AFTER A WHILE of being out of touch, I got the chance to bond with Dr. Frieda Brookshire this past weekend at the California Wok in Los Alamitos with other friends. I even admitted this to her *na medyo nagtampo ako sa kanya ng konti kasi matagal ko din siyang iniimbitahan na mag get-together* to no avail. But, such is the life of a busy doctor, I guess.

My connection with Dr. Brookshire started when she was nominated as Woman of the Year during Reflections 18 a few years back.

Needless to say, she's a phenomenal Prosthodontist. Just look at the brilliant smiles of Ms. Kuh Ledesma and Ms. Pops Fernandez. That's the Dr. Brookshire brand.

During our outing, we had some enjoyable conversations and laughs. *Nakakatuwang kasama si* Dr. Brookshire when she's out of her doctor's robe and just relaxing with friends.

The way she is outside work is in stark contrast to her professional life. Being a brilliant Prosthodontist, she does take her job seriously and she is excellent at it.

With the support of her younger brother Frederick, Dr. Brookshire has expanded her practice over the past year. They moved to a much bigger, more state-of-the-art dental office in Orange County, California.

When I'm at her clinic, I sometimes

forget that Dr. Brookshire had a much different career path before—being Frieda Fonda, the authentic Ms. Body Language on Philippine TV.

You can only detect traces of that *kikay* showbiz girl in her when she steps outside her workplace. As you may recall, Frieda Fonda was a very popular dancer during the 1980s. She started showbiz at age 16 and went on to join the cast of *TODAS*, headlined by comedian Joey De Leon.

When the show *TODAS* got the axe, Frieda had her academic studies to fall back on. She armed her herself with a degree in dentistry. Shortly after, she migrated to the US and reinforced her dentistry credentials at the University of Loma Linda, California.

She went on to pursue a master of science degree in Prosthodontics from the Marquette University School of Dentistry Graduate School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

So from being Ms. Body Language, she has transformed into the Beautiful Smile Diva. Besides the career change, however, Dr

Brookshire has not changed at all in terms of personality.

She's still down-to-earth and unassuming. She knows how to have fun and her laughter is distinctively hers *talaga*. Moreover, she's caring and compassionate.

Like most who watch TFC, I saw Dr. Brookshire bare her story on *Citizen Pinoy* as her beloved brother faced an immigration crisis.

I was happy to have played a little part in connecting Dr. Brookshire and Frederick to attorney Michael Gurfinkel, who was able to help the siblings resolve the issue. It's a heart-warming success story that's inspired a lot of our *kababayans* in their quest to attain the American Dream.

I just want to say to Dr. Brookshire, you are one great lady. You are truly the Beautiful Smile Diva!

One of my favorite *indays* took an important step in her career recently. Angeli Lacson, who has been behind the success

of the world-renowned Obagi Skin Health Institute empire, has accepted a position with another Beverly Hills beauty doctor, Harold Lancer.

Angeli says it wasn't an easy decision. She was with Dr. Obagi for 15 meaningful years.

She says she's feels nothing but gratitude toward her former boss Dr. Obagi. However, she felt it was time to take on new challenges and re-ignite her passion.

I applaud Angeli for taking this bold step. She's one of the most hard working persons I know. She's very professional and efficient.

As a friend, she's one my favorite people to hang out with. She has a good mixture of *katarayan* and kindness. She's frank and fair. What you see is what you get with this *inday*.

Pangga, I wish you all the best!

A wish to send a shoutout to my



Angeli Lacson



Dr. Frieda Brookshire



Monet with his new friends at CaliWok

new friends whom I met at the Cali Wok over the weekend. I was approached by the pretty Abigail Castillo-Roxas and her lovely friends. Thank you for the kind words. I'll be seeing you soon!

The author is a Marikina-born, award-winning celebrity beauty stylist with his own chain of salons across Southern California and Las Vegas, Nevada. Ultimately, Monet is known as

an all-around artiste who produces sold-out fashion and awards shows, as well as unforgettable marketing campaigns. Monet is also the founder of the revolutionary all-natural beauty products available at www.skinbymonet.com. He supports many humanitarian efforts to include projects in his native Marikina, The Bantay Bata Foundation, and many more. To contact Monet, please visit www.monetsalon.com for more information.

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"It's nice to fall in love once again and this time, walang hiwalayan. Kay Dr. Frieda Brookshire, I am so sure of my pearly whites. Finally, I met someone who will take care of me and my smile forever!"

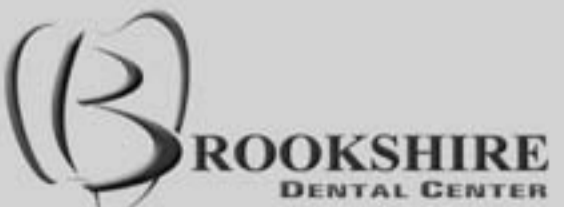
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