



Now comes the most delightful Ms. Dorothy Beeler! You've seen her lead the singing, and you've noticed that she's a very outgoing, enthusiastic person who seems to glow with an inner happiness; but what do you really know about her? Let's start with the outside stuff and then find out what makes her tick:

The Rotary Club of Houston is Dorothy's first Rotary Club. She's been a member almost five years, having been encouraged to join by her friend and colleague, Bill Teague. She was attracted to the club because she saw an opportunity to share her good fortune and to give back to the community. She continues to enjoy those opportunities, and has participated in several projects. If you've been around her, it will come as no surprise to hear that she does enjoy the fellowship!

Dorothy has been operating her own company, Beeler Communications, since October of 2002. Her clients include start up companies, individual corporate executives, and larger corporate entities. She assists her clients with the planning and execution of all aspects of their relations with the public and their customers. Specific areas of her consulting include crisis communications, media relations, speech writing, branding, marketing, and strategic planning.

Prior to opening her own consulting business, Dorothy has held high level executive positions in several large companies, including Shell Oil, Texaco, The Coastal Corp., Browning-Ferris Industries, and The Houston Chronicle. In every case she directed the company's media relations, public affairs, corporate communications, and/or government affairs. You wouldn't believe some of the things she's done for these companies. For example, ask her about her work with NASCAR.

I didn't ask her age, but since her resume lists professional work experience back to 1987, I can only conclude that she must have started working at age 13. Actually, she graduated from Texas A&M U. with a BS in Journalism/Public Relations, and later got her Master of Liberal Arts degree from H.B.U. (I'll bet you didn't see many students who looked like her when you were at A&M.)

If ever there was a person who could be described as “full of life”, it must be Dorothy. Here are some things that fill her life:

1. Her belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior forms the core of her being, and gives her the central focus for all that she does. Her faith is a joyful, loving, energizing drive that she loves to share with other people in every way possible. Her enthusiasm for and optimism about life are contagious. I don't see how anyone who spends a little time with her could stay down or depressed.
2. Her singing experience goes far beyond being a Rotary song leader. She is asked frequently to sing at her church, schools, Bible study groups, weddings, funerals, and for local non-profit agency events. In 2004 she released a CD of inspirational and gospel songs, and is working on another CD. While she describes herself as an untrained singer, and even though she wishes she could have a much higher level of musical ability, it is clear that she has musical talent that already is much beyond that of most of us.
3. Dorothy is an amateur dog trainer and competes with her Labrador retrievers at the Master level in AKC Hunt Test competitions.
4. Dorothy combines her singing with lessons learned from her dog training to make inspirational/motivational presentations to various groups.
5. Oh, and she sees as her greatest accomplishment in life her eighteen year marriage to “my best friend”, Michael Ruehman. (Are you wondering when they ever see each other?)

In summary, there are no contradictions about this lady. Everything she does, believes, and hopes for comes from her love of life and people and her spiritual convictions that life is good and that all people can make a beautiful experience out of living. I challenge you to sit next to her at lunch and not feel infected with her enthusiasm for life.