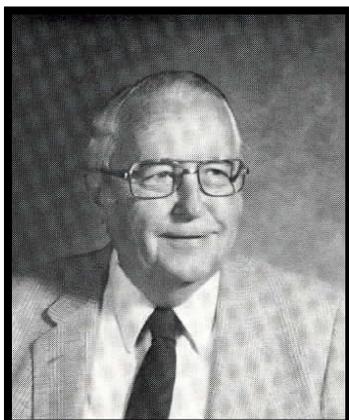


William “Bill” Black

CHSSA HALL OF FAME 1988



Bill Black began his involvement in high school forensics at La Mirada High School in La Mirada, California as a student and competitor. It was there that his love for competitive speaking first began.

Not many years after his graduation from La Mirada High School, Bill returned to the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, this time as a teacher and coach. Beloved by his students and colleagues, Bill taught and coached competitive speech and debate for a remarkable forty-one years! Thirty of those years were spent in California at Norwalk High School, Neff High School, Pioneer High School and John Glenn High School. Perhaps a tribute to his kind and loyal spirit, Bill retired from teaching in the same

district where he first began as a student.

In addition to coaching high school speech and debate, Bill Black served the speech community through his involvement in league and state leadership. Prior to the formation of the California High School Speech Association, he served as the president of the Southern California Speech Council. In addition, he was instrumental in his local league serving as treasurer and later president of the Southern California Debate League.

During his years on the California State Speech Council he was most interested in the area of curriculum. Bill felt it was important that the organization focus its attention on creating materials to help its classroom teachers. Long before the state of California began its focus on standards-based instruction, Bill Black was an instrumental member of CHSSA's curriculum committee working on creating a framework/standard for speech and debate instruction in the secondary school classroom. Along with fellow committee members, he worked on developing criteria-based instruction which was later developed into the *Framework for Speech Communication* in the 1970's. This foundational piece was a great asset to many teachers across the state and helped the organization to establish itself in the educational arena.

In addition to his service at the state and local level, Bill Black was a two diamond key coach in the National Forensic League. While coaching many successful students, he served the East Los Angeles NFL District for many years as district chair.

Bill coached many students to the state and national championships. For his service to the California High School Speech Association and its students Bill Black was inducted into the CHSSA Hall of Fame in 1988 – only one year after the original ten founding members were inducted!

Both a student and coach in the Southern California Debate League and the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District!