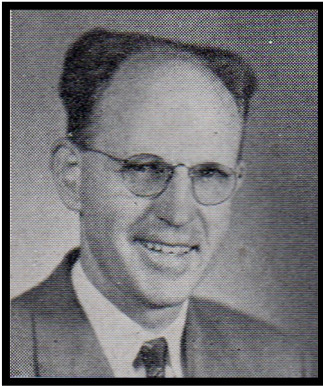


Day Hanks

CHSSA HALL OF FAME 1987



Day Hanks's teaching career was split between Excelsior High School in La Mirada, CA and John Marshall High School in Los Angeles, CA.

Hanks can perhaps best be remembered for his pioneering efforts in the speech community. Prior to the formation of CHSSA, Hanks was instrumental in the establishment of the Southern California Debate League which organized and ran competitions for the southern half of the state. Hanks originated the NFL chapters at Excelsior and John Marshall high schools. In addition, he almost single-handedly achieved the acceptance of speech in the curriculum of the Los Angeles City School District which currently is home to dozens of successful speech programs.

Day served on the California State Speech Council for a number of years, and it was his suggestion in 1958 that the newly founded CHSSA give itself status by affiliating with the California Association of Secondary School Administrators. A Southern California legend, it is no surprise that Hanks was selected in 1985 to be honored as one of the founding inductees of the CHSSA Hall of Fame.

Hanks also contributed a great deal to the speech community on the national level. A NFL three diamond key coach Hanks served for six years on the Executive Council of the National Forensic League, and for many years served in the Individual Events tabroom at nationals. He coached six students to the national final round and his students won two national championships. Most notably, in 1969, Day Hanks coached the national champion in team debate and the same year his son Wendall coached the college national debate champions. Hanks' speech alumni include CHSSA Hall of Fame coach Martha Kennedy.

For his contributions to the National Forensic League and it's students the NFL awarded Day Hanks with the great honor of being selected as one of the founding members of the NFL Hall of Fame in 1978, thus making Hanks a founding member of both the CHSSA and the NFL Halls of Fame.

Those who knew Hanks remember him as a very kind and pleasant man who was always willing to help those in need. Amongst his many accomplishments, in 1969 Hanks co-wrote the speech textbook *Thought to Speech*.

An expert on California state history, when Hanks was not involved in speech activities he focused his attention on his family and his passion for another form of pioneering: Hanks was an expert on California state history, specifically early California pioneering and would lead many tours tracing the DeAnza expeditions through California.

CHSSA will forever be indebted to Day Hanks for his great pioneering efforts in curriculum, program development and helping to lay the foundation for CHSSA itself.

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