

Watsonville High School Foundation

2008 Alumni Hall of Fame

Bill Dorey was born in Fort Lewis, Washington, on November 26, 1944. His family moved to Monterey, where Bill attended grammar school through the 5th grade. His family moved again in 1955 to Watsonville and Bill attended the 6th grade at H.A. Hyde School and Junior High School at E.A. Hall.

In 1958, Bill entered Watsonville High School (WHS) as a freshman. He loved his high school experience. He ran on the track team for four years and played basketball and ran cross-country. In his senior year, Bill was elected Student Body President. Upon graduation from WHS in 1962, Bill attended Cabrillo Junior College, where he began studying for his Civil Engineering Degree. While at Cabrillo, he continued to run on the track team and played basketball, as well. Bill has said many times that WHS was a great place to go to school - the teachers were wonderful and the overall experience was wholesome. Cabrillo was an extension of Bill's high school experience and was instrumental in preparing him for his transfer to Arizona State University (ASU), where he earned a degree in Construction Engineering.

After graduating from ASU, Bill began working on a highway project for Granite Construction Company in Grass Valley, CA. After five months, he had saved enough money to travel through Europe for three months - the trip of a lifetime for Bill and his traveling companions. Upon his return from Europe, Bill began his full-time employment with Granite Construction Company in Monterey on January 1, 1968. At the time, Granite was a relatively small, Central California construction company with annual revenues of approximately \$60 million.

Bill's career has taken him from Monterey to Sacramento to Santa Barbara and back to Watsonville over the last 40 years. He has served in many capacities, ranging from a laborer in the field, Project Engineer, Project Manager, Santa Barbara Branch Manager, Branch Division Manager and Chief Operating Officer. Bill is currently President and CEO of Granite Construction Incorporated (GCI).

GCI is currently operating in 25 states, working on projects from as small as a driveway to those in excess of \$1 billion. Notable projects underway at the moment include a \$260 million bridge over the St. Louis Bay in Mississippi to replace a bridge destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, the re-build of the underground stations of the World Trade Center in New York, and thousands of smaller projects throughout the West. Mr. Dorey attributes the phenomenal growth of the company to the incredible talent and commitment of Granite's people and the company's culture of always "boldly contending that which is right and firmly rejecting that which is wrong". Granite is currently a public company traded on the NY Stock Exchange with revenues in 2007 of \$3 billion.

Mr. Dorey and his wife, Joni, have been married for 37 years and have raised 4 children. He currently resides in Carmel and enjoys fishing, skiing and spending time with his family, including his new granddaughter and his "wonder dog", a yellow Lab named Kodi.

Judith Doering Nielsen was born in 1945 in Watsonville. She, along with her four sisters was raised on a small family farm on Amesti Road. While growing up in Watsonville, she like many of her peers worked in agriculture, picking berries, apples and plums, as well as working in the canneries.

Judy attended Freedom Elementary School, Watsonville High School, and Cabrillo College and graduated from Stanislaus State University with a BA in Sociology. While attending WHS, Judy participated in the Pep Club, Commercial Club, TAP (Teens Against Polio), and Alley Catz.

Upon graduation from College she went to work in the banking industry and worked in banking for a total of 34 years. Starting out as a teller, she rose to a position of senior management. Her final 12 years in the industry were spent as an Executive Vice President and Senior Lending Officer for San Jose National Bank. She was responsible for and managed the lending activities for the bank including business commercial lending, leasing, SBA lending, commercial real estate and construction financing, factoring, asset based lending and consumer lending. During her years as a banker she continued her education, including graduating from the Pacific Coast School of Banking at the University of Washington and completing the Uniform Credit Analysis Program.

In addition to her career, Judy has dedicated herself to community service. She served on the Watsonville City Council from November of 1998 to April of 2006, and was mayor from June of 2003 to November of 2004. Other activities include the following: Planning Commissioner for the City of Watsonville, Member of LAFCO, Criminal Justice Committee, Mello Center Committee, Action Pajaro Valley River Task Force, Pajaro Valley Historical Association, Watsonville Rotary (Paul Harris Fellow), Watsonville Women's Club, City of San Jose Housing Trust Oversight Committee, Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center Board Member, City of San Jose Economic Development Fund, Lenders for Community Development, Agricultural History Museum Project, YWCA, Second Harvest Food Bank, Avenues to Mental Health (Alliance for Community Care), and the Skillicorn Boy Scout Bar-B-Q Fundraiser.

Recognitions include receiving the YWCA TWIN award in San Jose and the 2003 Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year award.

Judy truly believes in community service, keeping a positive attitude and having a strong work ethic. She believes there is very little we cannot achieve if we are willing to work for it. Judy is married to Stan Nielsen and has five step-children and eleven step-grandchildren. Additionally, Judy has been actively involved in the lives of her many nieces and nephews.

Thomas Leikam was born on March 7, 1947 in Sebastapol, California. In 1949 his family moved to Watsonville where he attended Freedom Union Elementary School (K-8) and Watsonville High School (9-12), graduating in 1966. After two years at Cabrillo College, Tom attended Long Beach State and Cal Poly SLO. He graduated from Cal Poly with a B.A. in English/Social Studies and went on to further study at San Jose State (1972-73), UCSC (1978), and Long Beach State (1982).

Tom's coaching record includes both track and cross country. From 1973 to 2000 he was the assistant track coach overseeing the distance runners and he had numerous individual league champions in the 800, the 2 mile, and the mile relay. Tom was the head cross country coach from 1981 to 2006. Watsonville was undefeated in dual meets from 1988 to 2000 and had another undefeated season in 2004. Tom's team first went to the state meet in 1984 and had several team and individual appearances from 1989 to 2006. In 1989 Watsonville won the CCS.

When asked to write his autobiography, Tom shared his thoughts:

Spring, 1955 – 3rd Grade: The Corralitos Creek runs through our backyard and across the creek is Resetar's Apple Orchard. Bill, my oldest brother by 6 years, has taken me over to The Orchard to what we called the Main Road to teach me how to run. These biomechanics of running including how to hold my arms, how to use my arms to pick up speed, how to keep my center gravity under me and not over-stride, and how to land on my feet properly. It was like handing me the Grail. When I returned to the house, I got a notebook that I used in school and wrote down every detail Bill had taught me. It was the first time I sat down and wrote an essay of any kind on my own. The two areas that would mark my life were established in one afternoon's journey to The Apple Orchard.

1956 - 4th Grade: My class is taken to the auditorium to watch a movie. When we return to the classroom we are told to write about the movie. I summarized the movie and when the teacher sits down with me to go over my paper, I am told the movie and the writing assignment were to see how creative we were. I was told that I lacked imagination, but I had always considered myself to have a good imagination. I was shattered.

Spring 1961: P.E. has just finished. As I walk out of the old field house I see a poster to join the track team. I am uncertain about joining, but there is a part of me that wants to join. I had just finished a good basketball season and saw basketball as my main sport. But every time I walked past the poster in coming days, it pulled at me. I participated in track in junior high and had been a decent high jumper. I then decided running track was better than going home to chores ... it'd

simply be more fun. Little did I know what I was getting myself into.

Summer, 1963 - I get a job with a lettuce producing company – Schuman Farms. I am the caja boy – spreading the boxes ahead of the Braceros. I get to the fields at 6:00 am and get home between 6 and 7:00pm. I am exhausted, barely able to eat dinner. One day my brother Lee, who is taking me to work, asks if I've ever been to Yosemite. "No," I tell him. That sealed it – no work – we're off to Yosemite. A magnificent day and we even managed to get home at about the appropriate time for having gotten off work. Mom and Dad never knew. The next day I was fired for not calling in sick. As a result of working the fields, which I had worked since Mom could get all of us kids there, I knew I would go to college.

Winter, 1964 - The end of Cross Country season and we are ranked in Nor Cal. I am anxious for basketball to get started. As basketball season gets underway (about mid- season) Mr. McGarvey, the cross country coach, approaches Bob Scurich, Dick Dyer and myself about what he thinks we are capable of doing with our running. He believes we could be ranked nationally, but, there was a catch. We could continue to play basketball and be mediocre or we could quit basketball and devote our efforts to running. We understand his reasoning, quit the basketball team, and the three of us begin running full time.

Fall, 1965 - Cross country has been going well. The race to determine the National Champions is set for Dec. 10, the same date as the SAT's. Coach McGarvey wrote the SAT Board to get another date for the SAT and he succeeds. Our intermediate goals are to win league and the CCS and we win league easily. However, we place third in the CCS behind Homestead (who will go on to be national champions) and Cupertino (who will also be nationally ranked.) After the CCS "debacle", Mr. McGarvey rages at us. I held the course record where the CCS race was run, but I took fifteenth. In short, he refused to take us to the December 10th race; we should all hang it up and maybe he'd see us in the spring! We had trained too hard to have one "poor" race eliminate us from the national championship race. So, as a team we held a secret meeting. We knew that Coach McGarvey played golf at Spring Hills Golf Course on weekends and sometimes during the week when he wasn't coaching us. We decided to meet after school everyday and run. We'd warm-up by running past his classroom, at the track and past Spring Hills when he played golf. The strategy worked. He saw our passion for the sport and took us to the nationals. In the end we were ranked fourth in the nation.

Spring 1966 – I seriously contemplate graduating at the end of the first semester, but I felt that I owed much to the track team and if I didn't hang around, I'd miss a great track season! So I stayed and had fun setting some records: the MBL 2 mile in 9:42.9, the Regional 2 mile in 9:48.0, and the Distance Medley in 10:36.3.

1966 – 1968: I attended Cabrillo College and ran cross country and track and, again, I held many course records in cross country and a few track. Yet, it was at Cabrillo that my

running career came to an ignoble end. As a distance runner, I was running 100 miles a week. I was 5'9" and weighed 129 pounds. My body couldn't take the stress and broke down. I would receive cortisone shots on Monday for my knee injury and couldn't run for 48 hours. I would warm up on Wednesday, race on Thursday, take Friday off, and then race again on Saturday. After Saturday's race, I wouldn't walk until Monday when the procedure started again. Finally, Mr. Mitchell, one of the football coaches, asked me if anyone had told me about cortisone. I answered no. He then told me he knew another runner who had a similar problem and it took rest to heal. I gave up the cortisone shots and ran only races for the rest of the season. Then, I didn't run for about eight years.

Summer – Winter, 1968: I'll be attending Long Beach State. I move in the summer and after one semester, I decide that it isn't for me. I contact my former distance coach from Cabrillo who is now at Sonoma State. He tells me he can pull the classes I need. I am bound for Sonoma State, except for a little glitch. My former coach did not pull the classes I need and I was the last through registration, ending up with only a half unit of his track class.

Spring, 1969 – Spring, 1970: I drop out, come home, and spend that spring substituting. The subbing confirmed I wanted to teach and I enrolled in the summer session at Cal Poly SLO in 1969. For the next four quarters I averaged 22 units a quarter and kept the promise that I had made to myself of graduating with a B.A. in four years. The B.A. was a double major in English/social studies.

Spring, 1972 – Spring, 2006: I am offered a teaching position by Bob Bowman, the principal and my high school counselor. I will replace the venerable Mr. Hamilton in the English department. I accept the job and never look back.

Spring, 2008 - I walk out to the new track ... it calls to me, a not-so-subtle call. The memories of the workouts, the races – as if 43 years later I should still be out on the track doing 16 X 440 yards under 70 seconds. I can feel the call in my heart.

Carina Moreno was born in Watsonville and attended local schools, graduating from Watsonville High School in 2000. While attending WHS, Carina was active in basketball, track and cross-country.

The daughter of Esteban and Maria Conception Moreno, she has three older brothers. Her parents own Tacos Moreno in Santa Cruz and her brother, Juan, owns Tacos Moreno on the UCSC campus.

When Carina was very young she was introduced to boxing by an older cousin and became interested in the sport. The natural athlete that she is, as a junior in high school she began training in recreational Kick-Boxing. In 1999 she met her current trainer, Rick Noble, also a Watsonville native and 1967 WHS graduate. In February, 2000 Carina began her amateur career with the goal of the 2004 Olympics. That year she had one exhibition fight and then won the San Francisco Golden Gloves representing the Watsonville Police Activities League (PAL). In April, 2000 Carina entered the USA

Women's National Boxing Championships in Midland, Texas. Carina beat the #1 and #2 ranked females in the United States and continued on to win the National Championship on ESPN2. With that win she was selected to the United States Boxing Team to compete in Finland in the world's largest female tournament at the time. Fifteen countries were represented at the tournament. Carina beat the Hungarian, French and Canadian girls to win the Gold Medal for her country. She was also selected the Best Fighter of the tournament. Later that year she won the National Golden Gloves, National Blue & Gold and The National PAL representing Watsonville. During the next two years she won four National Titles, The Pan-American Games and a bronze medal in the first World Championships for amateur women's boxing.

In July, 2003 she fought her first professional fight in Monterey winning a unanimous decision. Carina has continued her professional career with a record of 17 wins, 1 loss. She won the North American Boxing Federation Junior Fly-Weight Title and then fought for the WBC interim title, then fighting Nanako Kikuchi of Japan for the WBC minimum weight world title. She defended her World Title twice in 2007. She also won the WBC Female Fighter of the Year and the NABF Fighter of the Year. That same year, Carina received the first Lily Rodriguez Award from the World Boxing Hall of Fame, the first time a female has received an honor. Carina fights June 13th in New Mexico on pay per view. She moves up in weight for a new title.

The City of Watsonville honored Carina with the first Carina Moreno Day and was a special guest of the 4th of July parade. In March, 2008 she received an award from the World Boxing Hall of Fame for a salute to women in boxing and she was honored for her accomplishments as a World Champion. Carina attends Cabrillo College and will transfer to San Jose State University in the fall.

Hall of Fame Assembly

**Henry J. Mello Center (WHS)
May 16, 2008
10:45 a.m.
Public is welcome.**

Evening for the Black & Gold

**Corralitos Community Center
Ham Buffet Dinner
May 16, 2008
6:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$25.00**

