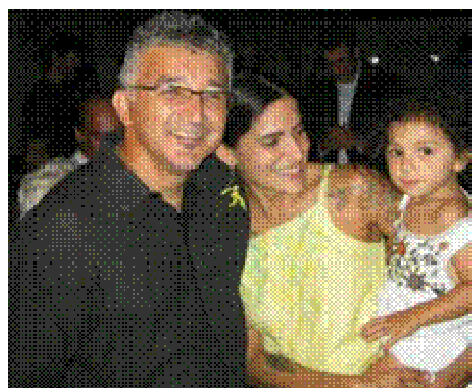


IN MEMORIAM

Eric Quezada, William (Bill) Friedman, & Al Fishman

Presente!

Eric Quezada – CCDS founding Member



Eric Quezada with his wife, immigrant rights organizer Lorena Melgarejo, and daughter Ixchel.

The beloved San Francisco community and political activist, Eric Quezada, passed away on August 24th at the age of 45 after losing a long battle with cancer. Eric was a founding National Co-Chair of the Committees of Correspondence and in that role made important contributions to the building of the organization in its founding years.

For decades Eric worked tirelessly in grassroots community housing struggles and organizations of San Francisco's Mission neighborhood, fighting for affordable housing and building a communitywide movement against mass evictions in the dot.com housing bubble several years ago.

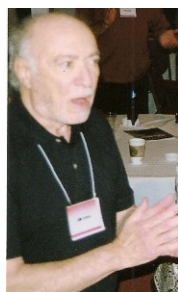
He was a national leader for immigration reform, served as second vice chair of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee and was on the board of directors for the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center and other community

organizations, including PODER (People Organizing to Demand Environmental and Economic Rights).

At the 2009 CCDS Convention in San Francisco, Eric spoke at a reception honoring CCDS National Co-Chair Charlene Mitchell. Holding his child, Ixchel now 3, he spoke movingly of Charlene's many years of political leadership and the impact her contributions had for his own life.

The many leaders and members of CCDS who knew and worked with Eric nationally will never forget him – his warmth, his optimism, his commitment and tireless efforts in the struggle for a better world for all.

Al Fishman



The Detroit City Council designated its main chamber - the Committee of the Whole Room - as a Peace Zone in memory of Al Fishman, lifelong peace activist who was a member of CCDS and participated on the Peace and Solidarity Task Force. The resolution, introduced by Council Member JoAnn Watson, states that Al Fishman was "one of our City's finest Peace, Civil, Labor and Human Rights activists, advocates and champions, one of our true Citizens of the World."

Bill Friedman, CCDS Founding Member

March 2, 1920- October 11, 2011

Bill Friedman grew up in a poor Ukrainian Jewish immigrant family. Joseph and Molly Friedman and their five boys settled with their extended family in Waterbury, Connecticut and eventually the Bronx.

Bill was introduced to left-wing politics by his eldest brother, who took him to a Young Peoples Socialist League meeting in his neighborhood. After a short time he became restless with the lack of action, and decided to check out the Young Communist League, which he found to be very active and more to his liking.

He joined the YCL and soon found himself speaking on street corners throughout the Bronx. One of the causes he spoke about was the defense of the Republic in Spain and against the Fascist rebellion. It was at one of these street corner rallies, in Hunts Point where he was introduced to nursing student Lisa Sevy, cousin of 16 year old Manny Nahman (who soon after became the youngest American to volunteer and fight in Spain with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade). After a short courtship they were engaged and married.

When Bill was a young boy he developed osteomyelitis (infections of the bone) that resulted in numerous surgeries and caused him to spend long periods in hospitals and rehabilitation facilities. As a result, he was rejected when he volunteered to join the armed forces during World War II. He found ways of aiding the war effort, and developed skills at fundraising in support of the fight against Fascism.

Bill was active in the Bronx after the war. He was arrested for blocking the eviction of the first Black residents in the Parkchester Apartments. It was soon after this that New York Life Insurance Company, which owned the giant Parkchester Apartment complex, relented and Parkchester was integrated.

Bill worked in a jewelry factory in Long Island City and then as a jewelry salesman at the department store, Korvettes. He eventually built a successful business creating and selling men's and women's jewelry.

When Angela Davis was arrested his sense of justice propelled him into action and he threw himself into the campaign to free her. He was a part of a group of talented fund raisers who were able to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to support the effort to free Angela Davis.

In his later life, when his health limited his abilities to be active, he was conscientious in contributing money to the causes that were the passion of his life.

Bill enjoyed and was proud of his Jewish cultural heritage and had a fine singing voice, and specialized in singing Yiddish tunes. He was also known for his sense of humor and had a treasure trove of jokes.

Bill, along with his wife, Lisa, who predeceased him by four years, had three children, Susanne Markman, Nina Lazar and Paul Friedman. He is also survived by 9 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.