

crimsongoesblue news

February 14th, 2024

Dear Friend,

In This Issue

Show Your Valentine's Day Love for Our Democracy

State of the Race 2024: House of Representatives

Update: One Seat Flipped

Biden's Big Wins

Dem Success/MAGA Mess

[Upcoming Events](#)

**MAKE SURE ALL THAT
TEA WE DUMPED IN THE HARBOR
DIDN'T GO TO WASTE**

2024

crimsongoesblue**PORTFOLIO**

Show Your Valentine's Day Love for Our Democracy

by Lisa Ulrich, CGB Managing Director

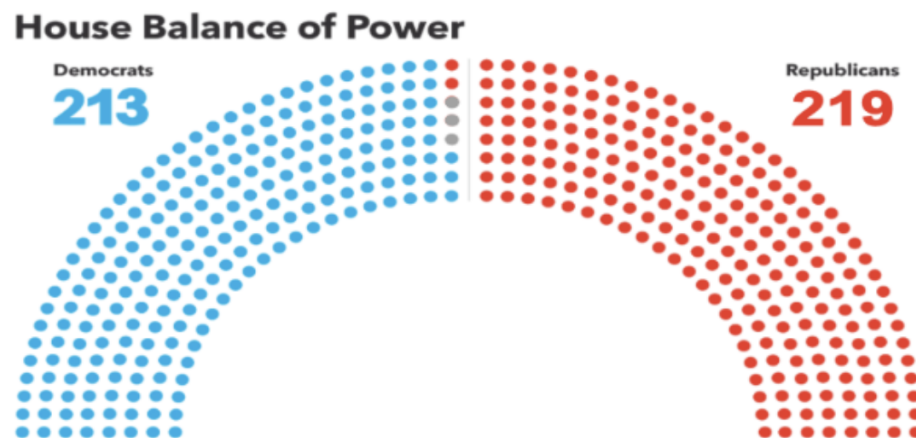
Fittingly, as Valentine's Day dawns, **members of the Class of '79 completed CGB's first 2024 Class Match Challenge, raising from classmates over \$120,000 for the Portfolio in just 3 weeks** . Now they are challenging the rest of the membership—aka YOU—to show your love for our democracy by matching their gifts with your own by March 30th or, better still, **TODAY!**
[Please contribute here](#)

The starting pistol has fired, and we are off and running – providing vital capacity-building support to candidates and grassroots groups upon whom the fortunes of the Democrats will turn!

The latest Portfolio focuses on **investing early** in candidates in **Arizona, California, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Pennsylvania** to help Democrats win back a majority of **U.S. House** seats, hold our majority in the **U.S. Senate**, and flip the **Arizona state legislature** in November, while building grassroots infrastructure in **California, New York, and Wisconsin**.

This Portfolio Class Match Challenge reflects the ongoing generosity of the '79ers, who have a rich history of raising funds and awareness for other social justice efforts, and the organizing prowess of Class Captain Elena (Nini) Cohen and classmate volunteers who not only contributed, but helped reach out to classmates. In record time, they engaged about 100 '79ers to contribute gifts ranging from \$50 to \$15,000!

CGB has set a goal of raising \$2 million through the Portfolio for the 2024 election. The gauntlet has been thrown. **For those of you who love our democracy, now is the time to donate!**



State of the Race 2024: House of Representatives

by Kathy Goodman '83

Although much of the political reporting and prognosticating in 2024 will focus on the presidential race, **it is important to remember that the 435 elections being held for seats in the House of Representatives are just as crucial.** For those of us who live in reliably blue states like California and New York, voting in the presidential election may seem relatively unimportant, but California and New York are also home to 9 of the 23 House races rated “toss-ups” by the Cook Political Report. Not only is retaining the presidency crucial for Democrats, **regaining control of the House is also key to solidifying Democratic priorities in a second Biden term.** Below is a summary of the current state of the battle for control of the House.

For background, the Democrats beat back a predicted “red wave” in the 2022 midterms, leaving Republicans with a slim majority. As a result, the

Democrats need to flip only a handful of seats to win back the majority.

Often the difference between winning and losing a congressional race is a matter of only a few hundred or a few thousand votes. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee estimated that as few as 6,675 total votes kept Democrats from retaining the majority in the House in 2022. This means that **relatively few changed votes could enable Democrats to re-take the House**. Where might new Democratic seats come from?

Republican members in Biden districts : There are 18 GOP members of the House who won in districts that were carried by Biden in 2020. Democrats are focused on these seats as key opportunities for flipping. The Republican incumbents have not been helped by the extremist do-nothing agenda of the MAGA wing in the House, and Democrats will be pushing that message in their campaigns. (We also need to work on holding the five seats held by Democrats in districts that Trump won in 2020).

New Congressional maps: The combination of the pandemic-delayed census in 2020 and a heavy focus, particularly by Democrats, on litigation over gerrymandered maps has meant many members of Congress will be running in newly drawn districts. A lot of media attention was paid to the redistricting fight in Alabama, which resulted in a new map that makes it likely the Democrats will pick up an additional seat in this traditionally deep red state. A new map has also been drawn in Louisiana, giving Democrats a likely additional seat there, and a recent ruling in NY allows Democrats to redraw the map in that state which may result in as many as six more favorable districts. On the other hand, a new map in North Carolina, where the Republicans control a super-majority in the state house, may give Republicans a chance to take back three seats from the Democrats in 2024. Litigation and map-drawing fights continue in at least six other states that may have an impact on control of the House.

What all of this means for Democrats is that **we can't afford to sit on the sidelines, even in blue states**. Congressional candidates often suffer in presidential election years, whether from complacency or a lack of enthusiasm for the candidate at the top of the ticket. As much as the presidential race may come down to a get-out-the-vote effort, **get-out-the-vote efforts will be even more important in congressional races** where only a handful of voters, in districts spread throughout the country—in red states as well as blue states—will have an outsized impact on which party controls Congress in the next term.

Update: One Seat Flipped

We're on our way! **Democrat Tom Suozzi has successfully won election** in NY-03, flipping the seat previously held by expelled and indicted Republican George Santos. Thanks to our members who participated in CGB phone banks organized by Licia Hurst and Larry Kahn over the last six weeks to support Suozzi's campaign.

Biden's Big Wins

We are continually adding content and improvements to our website to provide you with the most up-to-date information and opportunities. Need help making the case for Biden and the Democrats? Check out our newest web page: [Biden's Big Wins](#) . There you'll find a long and impressive list of Biden's accomplishments, organized by issue. It's under the Resources tab at the top of our Home Page.



Donald Trump has appealed to the Supreme Court the twice-rejected argument that he should be immune from prosecution for his criminal activity while in the White House. Biden remains unindicted.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer successfully pushed through a funding bill to aid Ukraine in its efforts to repel Russian aggression. As that was happening, Trump bragged on the campaign trail that, as President, he had told NATO allies that if they were not spending enough on NATO defense, he would “encourage Russia to do whatever the hell they want” to them.

UPCOMING EVENTS



CGB In-Person Postcarding in Los Angeles

Wednesday, February 28 at 10 am PT

Register here: [In-Person Postcarding Event](#)

We will provide CA addresses, script, pens, postcards and stamps. Please bring your postcard-writing skills. Suggested Contribution: \$20 for every 20 postcards with stamps.

Crimson Goes Blue Voter Protection Team Meeting

Wednesday February 28 at 4pm ET/1pm PT

Register here: [CGB Vo-Pro Team Meeting](#)



CGB's State of the Union Watch Party

Thursday, March 7 at 8pm ET/5pm PT

Register here: [CGB's State of the Union Watch Party](#)

Join members of the CGB community to witness, commentate & find fodder for your activism and advocacy as President Biden showcases his accomplishments and promotes his plans for strengthening the nation just 8 months before the election.

For a full list of events, see our [Calendar](#)

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Crimson Goes Blue
19 Jay St.
Somerville, MA 02144
United States

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