

crimsongoesblue news

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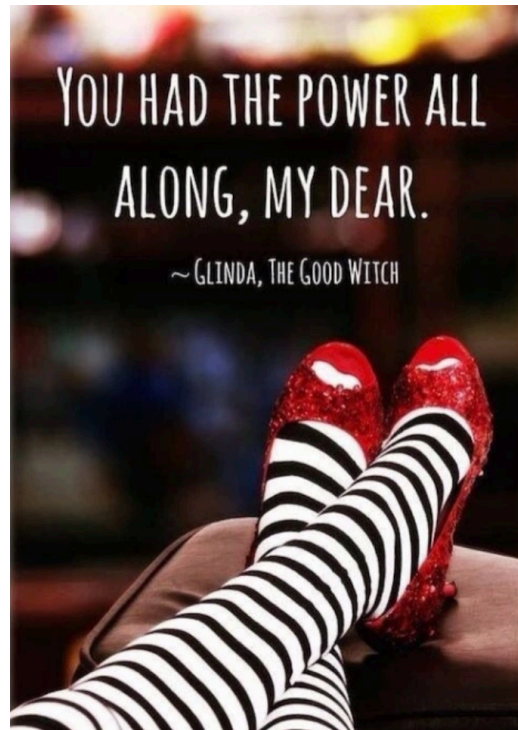
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What the Polls Don't See: Money, Party Organization, and Volunteers

*by Janet Singer, CGB Political
Director*

Believing that polls taken now predict results in November requires believing that campaigns don't affect election outcomes. What we've seen over and over in 2023 and into 2024, most recently in the Congressional race in NY03 for Tom Suozzi, is that Democrats wage winning campaigns.

Present polls cannot account for the future effects of money, strength of Party organization, and scope of volunteer efforts.

So, how are the Democrats doing in these three areas?

Campaign spending has been shown to have a significant impact on mobilizing voters. President Biden has raised more money than any other Democratic Presidential candidate at this point in the cycle. At the end of January, he had \$56 million cash on hand while Trump had only \$30 million. Trump spent more in January than he took in, and with the escalation of his legal costs—which somehow are being covered with campaign funds—this is likely to get worse. So far Biden has received \$174 million of Super PAC money compared with only \$25 million for Trump. **The Democratic National**

Committee has a record \$24 million in its coffers while the Republican National Committee has only \$8.7 million, the product of its worst fundraising year since 2013.

In addition to financial woes, **the Republican state party leadership in several battleground states is in chaos.** Three Party chairs have recently stepped down or been ousted, due to alleged financial mismanagement in Michigan, bribery in Arizona, and accusations of rape in Florida. The Nevada and Wisconsin Republican chairs are also resigning, though not because of scandal. The North Carolina chair, election denier Michael Whatley, is leaving his current post to work alongside Trump's daughter-in-law Lara Trump as new co-chairs of the RNC.

Democrats, in contrast, have unusually strong Party chairs, many of whom model their strategy after that of the Wisconsin Democratic Party's Ben Wikler, the innovative and collaborative leader who is widely touted as the strongest Democratic Party chair in the country.

In the wake of the 2016 election, resistance groups including Crimson Goes Blue sprung up all over the country. **The labor and enthusiasm of these groups, largely targeting their energy on the battleground states, completely transformed Democratic activism.** The power of these groups was evident in the Suozzi campaign when an army of volunteers came together to phone bank, canvass, and write to voters. When I attended a Zoom town hall with the candidate two weeks before the election, there were 5,000 people on the call. I knew then we were going to win, and win we did, by twice the margin even the most optimistic poll had predicted. **Watch this clip from Simon Rosenberg about the power of volunteers:**
<https://youtu.be/Q6r7qEFHJPc>.

The Democrats have been overperforming since 2018 and we are set up to outdo expectations in 2024. So let's be sure to contribute to the power of the pro-democracy, anti-MAGA movement that has led to the run of Democratic victories. Let's make a difference together.



DOUBLE DOWN ON

DEMOCRACY

DOUBLE OUR MEMBERS, DOUBLE OUR IMPACT

Invite Your Harvard Friends Today! crimsongoesblue.org/join

Crimson Goes Blue is embarking on an ambitious **campaign to double our membership to 4000 people** by the end of May. To reach this goal, we ask our members to personally invite Harvard friends to join CGB. No published mailing lists of Harvard alumni are available, so **we rely on members like you** to be our emissaries.

As Donald Trump closes in on the Republican Party's nomination for President, **the stakes have never been higher** to elect Democrats, and we need your continued support to grow our community for the critical 2024 election.

We're organizing high-impact activism in the battleground states and have set ourselves the ambitious goal of raising \$2 million for the [Portfolio](#), our strategic giving platform. Further, at a time of widespread concern about our democracy, we are showing members how to mobilize and inspire persuadable voters using data-driven messaging.

It's easy: Email this [cut and paste](#) letter to Harvard friends - optimally with your brief personal endorsement. Or simply send them a [link to our join page](#) along with a short note. Our experience shows that they'll appreciate you for giving them an opportunity to influence these elections in the company of Harvard friends.

Act now and your ambassadorship will be rewarded! Invite three people and you'll be entered into a drawing to win one of five signed copies of the celebrated book by CGB's co-founder Chris Cooper, a.k.a. The Central Park Birder: "Better Living Through Birding: Notes from a Black Man in the Natural World." For every three people you invite, you'll get another chance to win. [Sign up here.](#)

It will only take a few moments, but your outreach could make the difference between seeing Donald Trump in the White House for a second term and celebrating Democratic victories in 2024. We'll report on our progress biweekly. Thank you for helping to double our ranks! For further information or to get more involved with our campaign, please contact Lisa Ulrich, Managing Director, lisa.ulrich@crimsonsoesblue.org.

Introducing our New Operations and Communications Manager

To meet our ambitious goals for election 2024, which include doubling the size of our community, raising \$2 million for candidates and grassroots groups, protecting the freedom to vote, and organizing mini-reunion-style canvassing trips to swing states, we have hired **Mike Frank, Middlebury College '21, as our new Operations and Communications Manager.**



Mike brings enormous talents to the job. He has always centered his career around building progressive movements. His campaign work has spanned from his home district's Massachusetts State Representative race to John Hickenlooper's successful run for Senate in Colorado. At Sound & Fury Ltd., Mike collaborated with world-renowned storytellers to craft political media impacting national audiences of millions. While at Normington Petts in D.C., he supported top campaign analysts in developing data-driven insights for political candidates at national, state, and local levels. In his new role as our Communications and Operations Manager, Mike is thrilled to showcase and streamline the work of the CGB team, and **we are thrilled to have him on board.**



We Need You!

Have you been thinking you want to get more involved in Election 2024? Maybe you've just retired, you want to enlarge your social circle, or you just want to know that you did everything you could to help Democrats win. **Join the wonderful volunteer leaders who keep CGB running.** We are still looking for members to lead our teams in Michigan and in Nevada and to co-lead teams in

New York and in Pennsylvania; ideally, the PA co-leader will live in the Pittsburgh area. In addition, we can always use more contributors to our newsletter. Curious about any of these opportunities? **Set up an exploratory call [HERE](#).** It's fun and manageable, and you'll know you helped CGB have the most impact possible.

REMINDER: SUPER TUESDAY IS COMING

Quick reminder that primary and local elections are being held in 16 states on Tuesday, March 5. Even if you don't have a competitive primary or other race in your state, now is a good time to practice those "Get out the vote" speeches we will need in November. Remember that **voting is habit-forming: the greatest predictor of whether someone will vote in any particular election is whether they voted in the last one.** Help first-time voters navigate the system in March, so they are prepared for November!



In a logical consequence of the Dobbs decision, an Alabama judge declared that a frozen embryo used in In-Vitro Fertilization treatments is a “person” under Alabama law, resulting in the cessation of almost all IVF procedures in the state. Last week, First Lady Jill Biden announced the commitment of \$100 million in federal funding for research and development in women’s health, as part of a larger initiative she is heading up.

President Biden and his Democratic colleagues in Congress continue to push against MAGA opposition to aid for Ukraine in its fight against Russian aggression. Candidate Trump recently boasted that when he was President, he told a NATO ally that if they did not meet NATO defense expenditure guidelines, Trump would “encourage [Russia] to do whatever the hell they wanted” to our ally.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CGB In-Person Postcarding in Los Angeles

Wednesday, February 28 at 10 am PT

[Register here](#)



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's State of the Union Watch Party

Thursday, March 7 at 8:30pm ET/5:30pm PT

[Register here](#)



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.



CGB Pennsylvania Action Team Meeting

Monday, March 18th at 7pm ET/4pm PT

[Register Here](#)

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

Donate

Visit our website

Become a member

Invite your friends

Join the conversation online:



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