



santa clara county ★★
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
the democratic party of silicon valley

Chair's Newsletter - February 2020



This newsletter from Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair Bill James is the first in an occasional series of updates from the Chair.

In this first installment, Bill will share his reflections on the current state of the primary campaign and the general election campaign to follow, introduce James Kim (original James Kim or "OJK", not Finance Director James Kim!) as our newly-appointed Executive Director, and provide information and encouragement to join our Get Out the Vote (GOTV) phone banks all day on February 29, March 1, and March 3.

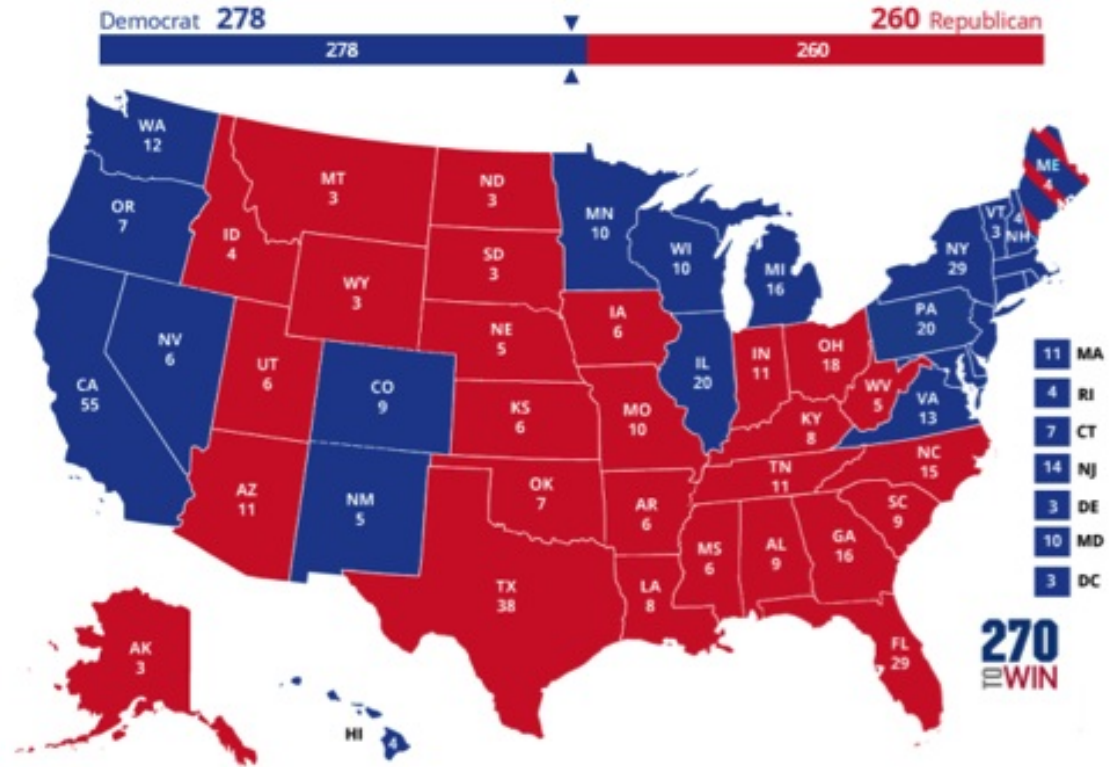
Reflection

As Super Tuesday and our California primary approach, we have been hard at work building the infrastructure and capacity to do the campaign work that will be required to elect a Democratic president, protect our Democratic House, and hopefully drive Moscow Mitch back into the minority in the Senate.

In this season of fierce competition among many excellent candidates for our Democratic Party nomination, we mustn't lose sight of the central imperative of this 2020 presidential election: to defeat Donald Trump. I urge all Democrats to support their favorite primary candidate with all the energy and enthusiasm each of us can muster. But there is no Democrat who is your enemy, and no true Democrat who won't do all they can do to elect the ultimate Democratic nominee for President.

Looking to the general election, it's important to remember there are many paths to victory, and the winning electoral college map for each of our candidates may differ.

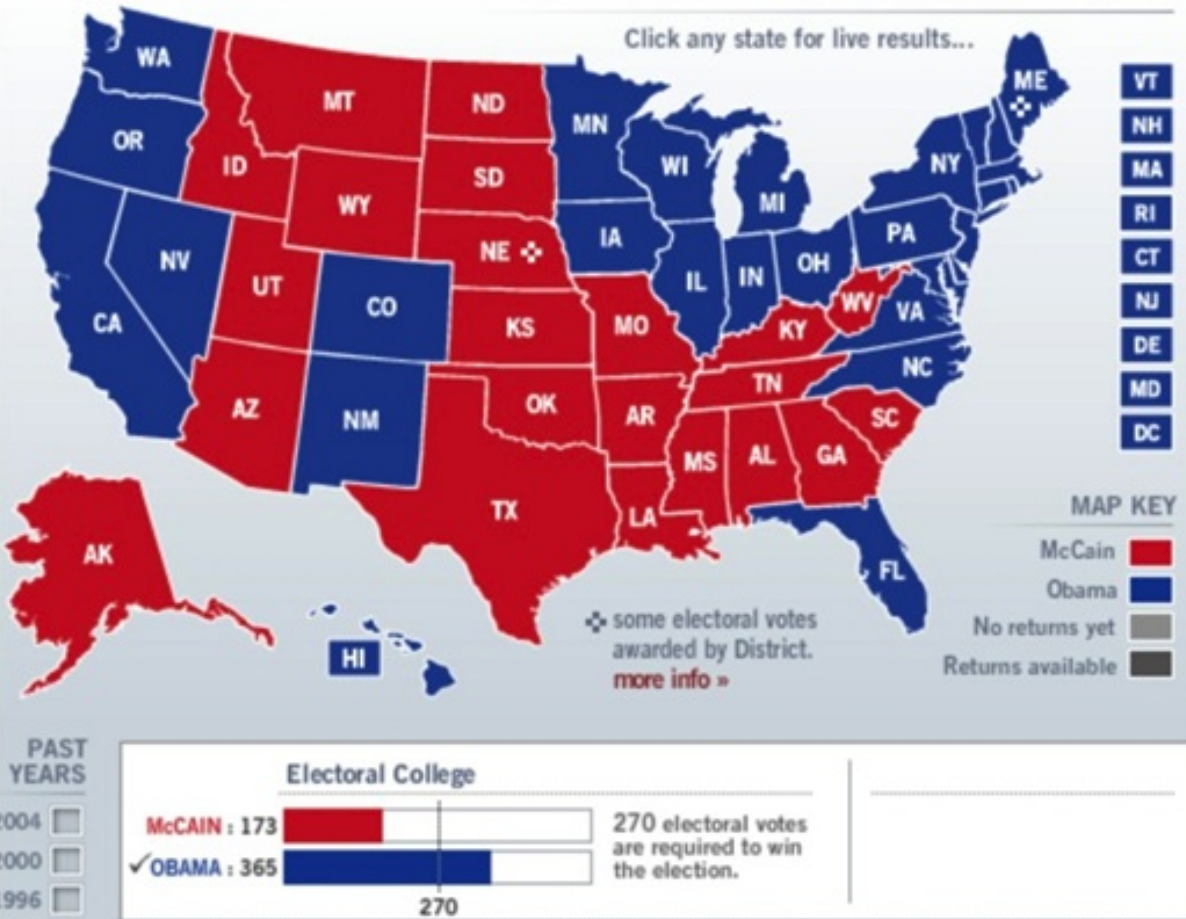
The map below would do it, and it's the map that would have propelled Hillary Clinton to victory in 2016, but for the want of some 77,000 votes across Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Between our Santa Clara County United Democratic Campaign and the Democratic Volunteer Center, we could swing 77,000 votes this election year!



However, other maps are possible too. For example, the Democratic nominee could lose Pennsylvania and Wisconsin but still win the presidency by winning North Carolina and Arizona. You might at first think that unlikely, but with Senate races targeted in NC and AZ, we could do it. Obama's 2008 map, reproduced below, reminds us he won NC, OH, FL and other states thought to be hard for a Democrat to win.

Updated: Dec. 3, 8:46am ET

2008 President Election Results



POLL CLOSING TIMES (Eastern Time)



view states by closing time



view states alphabetically

We must win, and to do that, we have to stick together. Please, don't say things to fellow Democrats that may make it harder for you to support each other's candidate once the nomination has been determined. Maintain a commitment to support our nominee and know that whoever that is will be oceans more capable, ethical, and caring than the Republican nominee.

James Kim appointed as Executive Director



I'm thrilled to announce the appointment of James Kim (original James Kim, who ran our 2008 and 2012 campaigns and worked on many others -- not our Finance Director, who happens also to be named James Kim) as our Executive Director of the Santa Clara County Democratic Party.

In addition to his experience running our past campaign efforts, James has served both as an executive director and board member for non-profit organizations, including three terms as Board Chair/President and a stint as Executive Director of Korean American Community Services, Inc. In his new role, James will direct our Democratic Party operations, including our 2020 campaign activities.

Our longtime Director of Community Services and Voter Registration, Judy Pipkin, has been hired as our County Administrator, to ensure compliance with the requirements and spirit of AB5, and she will continue to focus on community events and voter registration. Please stop by the Moorpark office to welcome James! You'll see he's working to organize the space for our campaign effort in 2020. Which brings us to...

Join Our Phone Banks February 29, March 1, and March 3

Our new Executive Director, our Director of Campaign Services – Titus Lin, and a tech all-star team including folks who help at the Moorpark office in 2018, members of the Democratic Volunteer Center tech team, and our talented intern Cody Ho have been working together to schedule and prepare for three phone banks, on Saturday February 29, Sunday March 1, and Tuesday March 3, for our Get Out the Vote effort.

Our phone banks will support Josh Harder, TJ Cox, Christy Smith (running to replace Katie Hill), and our local endorsed San Jose City Council candidates.

The tech and campaign team have set the stage, but now we need volunteers!

Please use the following links to sign up for a shift.

February 29: <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/241715/>

March 1: <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/243312/>

March 3: <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/243322/>

Voter contact is how we win elections. Please join us!

In Democratic Solidarity,

Bill James
Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair
chair@sccdp.org
(408) 831-1336

Visit our website

