



News from

THE RIPON SOCIETY

March 23, 2011

“Meet Team McCarthy” Ripon Society Roundtable Features Senior Staff from the Office of the House Majority Whip

The Ripon Society hosted a roundtable lunch discussion yesterday afternoon with 12 senior staff members from the Office of the House Majority Whip.

“With the new Republican Majority now allowing more open rules in the House of Representatives,” stated Jim Conzelman, the President and CEO of The Ripon Society, “the role of the Majority Whip operation has taken on renewed importance.

“The Whip is the eyes and ears of the House Majority. As such, he not only has to have an understanding of the legislative agenda, but he also has to have a sense of whether that agenda is something the Members of the Republican Conference will support.

“To his credit, Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy has surrounded himself with a team of people who are exceptionally qualified to help him achieve that goal. The purpose of yesterday’s roundtable was to hear from some of those folks and get a better understanding of how they are meeting the challenges of their job.”

The staff members from the Majority Whip’s office participating in today’s roundtable discussion were: Tim Berry, Chief of Staff; Nick Bouknight, Deputy Chief of Staff; Natalie Buchanan, Deputy Director of Coalitions; Kelly Dixon, Deputy Floor Director; Erica Elliott, Press Secretary; Pete Meachum, Member Services Director; James Min, Deputy Chief of Staff; Emily Murry, Policy Advisor; Steve Pinkos, Policy Director and General Counsel; Sarah Pompei, Communications Director; John Stipicevic, Floor Director; and, Brian Worth, Coalitions Director.

According to Conzelman, the format of the roundtable was intended to foster discussion among the featured participants and those who attended the event. Conzelman also noted that this was the third roundtable discussion The Ripon Society has hosted with senior staff members from the

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Tim Berry, Chief of Staff of the Office of the House Majority Whip, delivers remarks at The Ripon Society roundtable on March 22.

House Republican Leadership.

Last October, he said, The Ripon Society played host to “Team Boehner.” And this past December, The Ripon Society played host to members from the Republican Majority Leader’s staff – “Team Cantor.” On average, Conzelman added, anywhere between 90 to 115 people have been in attendance for these events. Yesterday’s roundtable drew a crowd of around 100.

The Ripon Society is a public policy organization that was founded in 1962 and takes its name from the town where the Republican Party was born in 1854 – Ripon, Wisconsin. One of the main goals of The Ripon Society is to promote the ideas and principles that have made

America great and contributed to the GOP’s success. These ideas include keeping our nation secure, keeping taxes low and having a federal government that is smaller, smarter and more accountable to the people.

For more information on The Ripon Society, please visit <http://www.riponsociety.org>.

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**The Ripon Society
Roundtable Discussion
with Team McCarthy
March 22, 2011**

1st Row (l to r): Pete Meachum, Member Services Director; Sarah Pompei, Communications Director; John Stipicevic, Floor Director; *2nd Row:* Erica Elliott, Press Secretary; James Min, Deputy Chief of Staff; Nick Bouknight, Deputy Chief of Staff; *3rd Row:* Natalie Buchanan, Deputy Director of Coalitions; Brian Worth, Coalitions Director; Kelly Dixon, Deputy Floor Director; *4th Row:* Emily Murry, Policy Advisor; and Steve Pinkos, Policy Director and General Counsel