



News from

THE RIPON SOCIETY

May 20, 2011

“Meet Team Upton”

Ripon Society roundtable features senior staff from the Energy and Commerce Chairman’s office

The Ripon Society hosted a roundtable lunch discussion yesterday afternoon with 11 senior staff members from the office of the Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

“I don’t think there is a committee on Capitol Hill right now with a wider portfolio of more pressing issues than the Energy and Commerce Committee,” stated Jim Conzelman, the President and CEO of The Ripon Society.

“From increasing domestic oil production which helps reduce the pinch at the pump to rolling back onerous regulations that are inhibiting economic growth, the E&C Committee is at the forefront of the House Republican effort to make the federal government not just smaller, but smarter and more accountable to the people.

“The Committee is ably chaired by Michigan Congressman Fred Upton, who has not just done an outstanding job of leading Energy and Commerce since taking the helm in January, but has also surrounded himself with a top-notch staff who have made the Committee one of the focal points of Republican policy making on Capitol Hill. The purpose of yesterday’s roundtable was to learn more about the Committee’s efforts moving ahead in this important year.”

The staff members from Chairman Upton’s office participating in yesterday’s roundtable discussion were: Gary Andres, Staff Director; Jim Barnette, General Counsel; Maryam Brown, Chief Counsel, Subcommittee on Energy & Power; Neil Fried, Chief Counsel, Subcommittee on Communications & Technology; Julie Goon, Senior Health Policy Advisor; Todd Harrison, Chief Counsel, Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations; Joan Hillebrands, Chief of Staff; Ryan Long, Chief Counsel, Subcommittee Health; Alexa Marrero, Communications Director; Dave McCarthy, Chief Counsel, Subcommittee on Environment & Economy; and Gib Mullan, Chief Counsel, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing & Trade.

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

“I don’t think there is a committee on Capitol Hill right now with a wider portfolio of more pressing issues than the Energy and Commerce Committee”



Gary Andres and Joan Hillebrands deliver opening remarks at The Ripon Society roundtable on May 19.

noted that this was the fifth roundtable discussion The Ripon Society has hosted with senior congressional staff.

On April 20th, he said, The Ripon Society hosted “Team Camp” and senior staff for the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Last October, The Ripon Society played host to “Team Boehner.” In December, The Ripon Society played host to members from the Republican Majority Leader’s staff – “Team Cantor.” And in March, The Ripon Society hosted a roundtable with “Team McCarthy” and members of the Majority Whip’s staff. 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 95.

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>.

RS



**The Ripon Society Roundtable
Discussion with Team Upton
May 19, 2011**



Pictured above (from l to r):
Row 1 - Maryam Brown, Neil Fried, and Julie Goon;
Row 2 - Jim Barnette, Todd Harrison, and Gib Mullan;
Row 3 - Alexa Marreo, Dave McCarthy, and Ryan Long.