



THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN...

ON THE ROLE OF THE MADDY INSTITUTE

The *Maddy Institute* is part think tank, part leadership trainer, part encourager of participation in the democratic process and all San Joaquin Valley. We focus on issues critical to the Valley: air quality; funding for Highway 99; Temperance Flat. We attempt to bring the facts to the residents of this Valley in an impartial manner on issues impacting the San Joaquin Valley. The *Maddy Institute* is not yet a household word but our goal is to provide information to those who are involved in or responsible for creating public policy on Valley issues. We strive to provide facts which will form a basis for discussion and resolution of the many problems facing our Valley. We prefer to encourage long term permanent solutions rather than quick fixes.

In the next month the *Maddy Institute* will begin an online digest of published material on Valley issues. We will also host a program on Channel 24 – KSEE on the State Bond issue and specifically funding for Highway 99 and the lack of funding for Temperance Flat. We will also host on various stations candidate debates on the key local races.

During the last few months and continuing through the summer we have nineteen *Maddy Institute* Intern-Scholars who have been given scholarships for serving in legislative offices locally and in Sacramento and Washington D.C. All are outstanding individuals with leadership potential who gain invaluable insight on the working of government and the need for good people to participate in the process. Based on the achievements of our alumni over the last four years we are confident that we have assisted some of the future leaders of the San Joaquin Valley. The great news is that we have been provided, through the efforts of our Executive Director and the generosity of the Associated Students organization, with additional funding of \$18,500 for scholarships for next year which will permit the expansion of this program to thirty-three intern-scholars during the next school year.

We are in a period when many issues impacting the San Joaquin Valley require serious thoughtful discussion from which solutions can be developed. Today immigration is a major issue nationally that also has a significant impact on our Valley. Water and Air Quality will always be Valley issues. In bringing information forward on these and other issues we represent no ideology, but as we deal with Valley issues we undoubtedly will from time to time be perceived as having an ideological position on those issues. The *Maddy Institute* strives for balanced analysis, but may not always achieve that goal, particularly where the needs of the Valley are clear and are being overlooked at the State and National level of government.