



While American Packaging Corporation refers to the founder as Sam Kardon, it was Stan Schottland who built the foundation that led to what American Packaging Corporation is today. To Stan, family was everything, and in the same way he also thought of his friends, neighbors, and co-workers as very much part of his family. It's because of this philosophy that American Packaging refers to its team as "The APC Family". Stan once said, "it's all about treating everyone as family; and families watch out and support each other, period."

His charitable nature was rooted into the core foundation of the company and is still present today. The company and its employees contribute locally to organizations such as The United Way, The Red Cross, food banks in surrounding communities, and they support several local community activities. APC has also been a key advocate to the "Hole in the Wall Gang" camp for nearly 25 years by volunteering, fundraising, and contributing millions of dollars to help children with life-threatening illnesses attend a medically staffed camp. Many of the events and activities in Story City are supported by American Packaging through their partnership with the Story City Economic Development Corporation and the Story City Greater Chamber Connection. One of American Packaging's employees here in Story City, Chad Gray, is very much involved in the business community as well. Serving both on the Story City EDC Board of directors as treasurer and as the EDC representative on the Story City GCC Board as treasurer, Chad is helping to build Story City.

In 1994 American Packaging looked to expand as their customer base recognized a need for production of popcorn bags. So, they found a home in Story City. From that point moving forward, Story City has grown its customer base to include other large companies such as Nestle, Mars, General Mills, and Dole. This blend and mix of products and distributors between many different companies allows American Packaging to become diversified and as a result become a stronger as a major manufacturer. The plant progressed since 1994 and they no longer manufacture the popcorn bags that originally brought American Packaging to Story City. So, unfortunately for all you popcorn lovers, they do not have popcorn at the facility any longer.

During a recent visit, Human Resource Manager, Jeff Fuller, shared that one focus for 2019 and 2020 is developing employees and creating opportunities from within. This strategy helps maintain the family concept rooted so firmly in American Packaging's foundation through investing in their employees. This process began recently as American Packaging moved away from using temporary employment services for staffing to instead utilizing employment services as a recruitment tool for direct hires to attract and retain talent. Because of their core values such as sustaining a family culture, hard work, support, reinvestment in the business, and rewarding





accomplishments, American Packaging believes they can retain the best in the industry and be a leader in the field.

Peter Schottland is currently CEO and remains involved with visiting all locations on a consistent basis. He began working a variety of positions through the company until he reached the top as CEO/President. American Packaging believes that an understanding of all levels of the business is important and working from the ground up is necessary to be successful. This past year around Christmas, Peter sent a message to the entire company saying, “they don’t just have over 1000 employees, they have over 1000 families”. It is so amazing to have such a large family oriented manufacturer who we also like to call family here in our great community of Story City!

