

Who IS That? by Ross Barbour

Aw! You could see right through my disguises. When I was an "Extra" in movies (1990 & 1991), I was part of a hundred different scenes, but none were more strange than this one.

There must have been 50% of us at Universal Studios that morning. It wasn't even daylight when we went into "Make Up." For me they put on sideburns with mutton chops and a goatee. Each man got something. Then we hurried to "Wardrobe." I was dressed in an antique shirt and tie....an antique suit, and antique shoes....oh, and the hat. Don't you just love that hat? The lady "extras" got bonnets and long antique dresses. Later they gave me an antique walking stick, and I was to carry a suitcase (also antique).

All this preparation was for a street scene in Bram Stoker's "Dracula" where Dracula (Gary Oldman) came to London in search of that lady who looked so much like his wife of centuries before. This photo was taken the first of the two days they filmed. It was a clear day. The second day it rained. They had put four inches of dirt on the paved street to make it really like old London was at that time in history. Yuck!!! My shoes and pant cuffs became caked with mud, and those long gowns the ladies wore dragged in the mud behind them. What a mess! In the mid-afternoon an uncontrolled horse pulling a buggy bumped into me and almost knocked me over. It was heading straight for Gary Oldman who had his back turned. Extras are not supposed to talk to stars on the "set," but I did. I shouted "Gary! Look out for the horse!" He wheeled in time to dive out of the way.

I loved being an "extra." It is always surprising. One day you work in a skyscraper and the next you are in a mine, or a courtroom, or a piefight....or muddy old London.

I always hoped to be called for a Western movie. I would be standing there at the bar when the sheriff would swagger in through those batwing doors and say "I need a posse! You men come with me." Then we'd all ride off in a cloud of dust. That dream never came true.

An "extra" is supposed to be in a scene; but, if you notice him, he's a bad extra. I must have been really good because no one ever noticed me. I couldn't find myself in that Dracula scene, so don't bother to look for me. I'm just the guy who kept Gary Oldman from getting muddy hoof prints and buggy tracks all over his fancy suit.



Dear Four Fresh Men,
I really like your songs. I especially like the trout song.
I really, really like your concert. I want to go to
your concert again.

Your friend,
Amelia Hanzlich age 8
(granddaughter of Bruce Camlin)

AFJS's Chuck Swan Succumbs to Heart Attack (Chuck was a longtime FF Fan and a member of FFS)

Chuck Swan, executive director of the American Federation of Jazz Societies for the past two years, died suddenly of the heart attack on Oct. 12 at the age of 67 in Phoenix. Burial was in his hometown of Rochester, NY. He had recently completed plans for the organization's annual meeting Nov. 23 at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater, Florida, in conjunction with the Suncoast Classic Jazz Festival, which AFJS President Don Jones indicated would still be held as planned.

Swan aggressively expanded and broadened the Federation's membership to over 200 member organizations and was instrumental in developing new programs and services that effectively dealt with the operational aspects of jazz societies and festivals. Past AFJS President Lew Shaw stated, "Chuck was very much a take-charge guy, and he made things happen. He will surely be missed for his deep-rooted passion for the music and his commitment to the Federation and the total jazz community." Joel Robin Goldenthal, president of Jazz in AZ, a group that Swan previously headed, commented "Chuck Swan was remarkably generous in devoting his time and energies to promoting jazz through advocacy, education and support of musicians."

Chuck Swan took up the piano at an early age and earned a scholarship to the Eastman School of Music at the age of 11. He played in bands through college, but a hand injury ended his career as a musician. He had degrees from the University of Rochester and a certificate in advanced urban studies from the prestigious Brookings Institute. He played some minor league baseball, did some modeling and was a college admissions director before being hired by Governor Nelson Rockefeller to administer the State of New York grants program. Over the next 25 years he doled out \$6 million annually to some 500 non-profit organizations.

He took early retirement in 1994 and moved to Arizona, saying he was tired of the politics and shoveling snow. As an officer of Jazz in AZ, he took an organization that was close to going out of business and made it into a major player in the Phoenix jazz scene with 1,000 members and an annual lineup of 42 concerts and two festivals."