

# L i t e r a t u r e a n d H i s t o r y



## Chapter 37 Lewiston, Idaho

*Last Month: Jim Harris was a name he knew in California, and Larry Payne was a determined young man. As usual, Henry got along with them all. He was not a man to pass judgments quickly about strangers.*

Two months had passed and the digging was yielding hardly a days' wages for a gold camp. "Boys! Let's hurrah Lewiston! Come on, we can take a weekend off and have a good time. We've earned one good weekend, haven't we?" Charlie urged his friends on.

Jim Harris was one that did not get too excited about anything. "I think Charlie is right. We need a break, boys," he said with sincerity. "I'm ready!" declared James. "Pack up," Henry stated with authority. "Let us see if Lewiston has improved its population with the fairer sex," Henry was ready for some female companionship.

The five miners were off for an adventure in Leewiston. Henry had no idea how much of an adventure he would have. They all checked into the Luna House. Hot baths and shaves were in order. They had two month's worth of dirt to clean off.

While they were checking in, another man seemed agitated to wait for six Florence miners to check in. He was a stern man with a no-nonsense look about him. Stocky, well built and yet seemed to have a better-than-thou attitude without opening his mouth.

Charlie instantly did not like the man, but decided to try a friendly approach. Who kn-



'Red' Johnson

ows, maybe he was different than he looked. "I'm Charlie Reeves, what do they call you?" Charlie inquired.

"Pat Ford, if it's any business of yours," the man responded exactly as he appeared, stern. "No offense, sir, just being friendly," Charlie responded as Henry gave him a nudge that it was his turn to check in. Pat Ford had come over from Walla Walla and was in the process of setting up a string of Spanish dance halls.

"You boys are welcome to spend your gold at my new dance hall in Oro Fino," Ford said in almost a sarcastic manner. "Oro Fino, I've heard of that strike," Henry replied. "Bigger than Florence, they're picking up the gold off the streets," Pat Ford volunteered.

"Last time I heard that I worked hard for \$4.00 a day," Henry replied. "There are miners making \$30.00 a day in Oro Fino," Ford answered with that better-than-thou attitude. It seemed he was interested in one thing only; stripping every miner he could of every ounce of gold.

Then Henry thought: "Why

would he be investing in a Spanish dance hall if it wasn't a boom camp? He concluded there may be something to his bragging. Not as good as he claims, but half that would be better than Florence.

"I might give Oro Fino a try," Henry replied. The boys had a great time that night in Lewiston. The next morning they slept like babies. After arising, having breakfast, they heard a mob was forming to "clean out the criminals" from Lewiston.

Vigilantes may be a better description, but they had no formal organization. The Idaho Territory did not even have a legislature, court system, law enforcement was scarce, and the "good" citizens felt obligated to take matters in their own hands if they perceived someone was breaking the law.

Ironically, I say perceived (not to justify evil); but because how can one break a law that does not exist yet? Henry's law officer's hat was on and screwed down tight. He went into the street to investigate what was happening.

The crowd had no intentions of giving the accused man a trial. Not even a miner's court, which may have been acceptable to Henry considering the times in Lewiston. Henry felt obligated to give a law and order speech.

"My friends, we must not in the beginning of this city do the very thing which we are gathered to prevent. These men may be guilty of the crime of murder, but we shall not be less guilty if we take the government in our own hands and put them to death other than by due process of law. Do not, I beseech you, take any steps that may bring disgrace and obloquy upon the name of our rising young commonwealth".

It is said that Henry spoke with the confidence of a front runner election candidate. It is said that his speech was quite effective to all except one: Pat Ford.

Ford tried to re-arouse the crowd to no avail. He became furious that they did not listen to him and stomped off to hire transportation to his new dance hall in Oro Fino.

A couple days passed and the boys had a good time without causing too much trouble. Henry, Charlie Reeves, and Charles Ridgley decided they were going to try Oro Fino.

Harris, Payne and Wheeler were going back to their claims in Florence. They said their goodbyes and went their respective ways.

**Next Month Chapter 38  
Gunfight at Oro Fino**

## WESTERN MINING ANTIQUE COLLECTOR'S SHOW

Sat, June 20, 10am to 4pm at the Sutter Creek Auditorium, located at 71 Main Street in downtown Sutter Creek, the show provides the opportunity for mining collectors to meet, sell, and buy authentic mining artifacts and collectibles. Items such as miner's candle sticks, carbide lamps, picks, shovels, and vintage artifacts from the state's mining history will be on display and for sale. Large items such as ore carts and buckets and other tools of the miner's trade will be part of the show. The show is open to the public and is free of charge. Exhibitor spaces are available for a nominal fee. For information or registration, contact: Roger Peterson 209-267-5972 or Jim Swallow 530-295-0795. Any questions or comments, Carol Swallow, 530-957-0796 cswallow@placerville.net

## A Magical Cinderella

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...the humor in the production. We meet the Fairy Godmother, played just as powerfully by Kecia Lewis, in another fun song "Impossible", as she sends Ella off to the ball. Some of the most magical effects in the production occur when the crazy old lady Marie becomes the Fairy Godmother, and when Ella's old dress becomes her beautiful gown.

The musical highlight came with "Ten Minutes Ago" as Prince Topher and Ella dance at the ball, and fall in love. Sung beautifully by Jones and Cardwell, this song should rank as one of the finest love songs in the Rodgers and Hammerstein collection. As Act 2 opens, we are treated to more humor, in the form of the song "Step-sister's Lament" sung by Charlotte, the funny Aymee Garcia, and the ladies of the court. And finally the Prince and Ella sing "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful?", harmonizing beautifully as they prepare to live happily ever after and make the kingdom a wonderful place for all.

As usual, the costumes, sets, and choreography were terrific, and the big dance numbers were beautifully done. The opening night Sacramento crowd was very appreciative, and there was no hesitation to give a standing ovation to the whole cast. The California Musical Theater opens its next season in November with "Elf - The Broadway Musical", and in the meantime, the summertime Music Circus will present "My Fair Lady" opening June 9th, with more great shows to follow.

Tickets range from \$22 to \$89; available at Wells Fargo Pavilion Box Office, 1419 H Street. Groups of 12 or more reserve tickets (916) 557-1198. Tickets also available at the Convention Center Box Office, 1301 L Street, or (916) 808-5181. [www.Tickets.com](http://www.Tickets.com) For more information and theater news, visit online at [www.californiamusicaltheatre.com](http://www.californiamusicaltheatre.com)

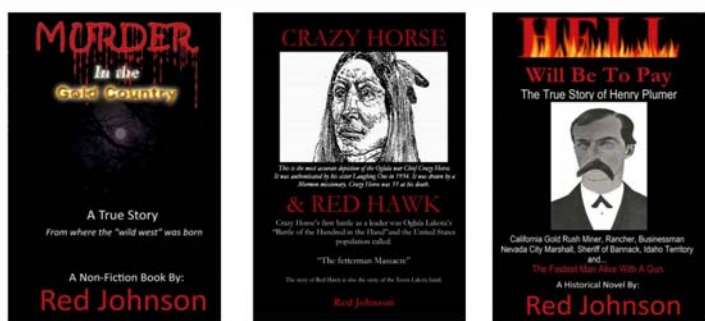
## Local Trout Unlimited Chapter

On Thursday, June 18, the El Dorado Chapter of Trout Unlimited will celebrate four years' of restoring and cleaning local streams and teaching anglers how to cast a fly, all on the western slope of El Dorado County. This is also the Chapter's "Member Appreciation" Party. The meeting will start at Jack Russell's Brewery at 2380 Larson Drive in Camino at 5:30pm for social hour, then dinner of hamburgers and all the fixins. Bring a friend and arrive with an appetite. This party is open to members and non-members alike. For additional information, contact Berni Bahro at [Berni.bahro@gmail.com](mailto:Berni.bahro@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.eldoradotu.org](http://www.eldoradotu.org)

## AmadorArts Announces Free Summer TGIF Concerts Line-up

It's a summer tradition 17 years strong - going to outdoor concerts every Friday evening somewhere in Amador. "TGIF" was created by AmadorArts to be a community-oriented concert series, and that value remains true today, even though many other summer concerts have come on the scene. One of the most important facets of TGIF is that admission is free to all, although "buckets are passed" at each concert. The 10 consecutive weekly concerts, each at a different outdoor setting, provide a place for locals and visitors to unite around the family-friendly experience of music and picnicking enjoyed in a variety beautiful environments without the price of a ticket or pressure to buy anything.

**AmadorArts TGIF Schedule for June and July 2015**  
Free Friday Concerts 6:00pm to dusk. Bring a picnic, lawn chairs. [www.amadorarts.org](http://www.amadorarts.org)  
June 12, Slade Rivers Band at Detert Park, Jackson  
June 19, After Dark at Minnie Provis Park, Sutter Creek  
June 26, 30 Years After at Mollie Joyce Park, Pioneer  
July 10, Full Circle at Amador County Fairgrounds, Plymouth  
July 17, Mister Pinstripe at Castle Oaks, Ione  
July 31, Hot Dark at Volcano Amphitheater  
[www.amadorarts.org](http://www.amadorarts.org)



**Amazon.com/books**  
**Search by title only!**

"Hell Will Be To Pay The True Story of Henry Plumer"

"Crazy Horse & Red Hawk"

"Murder in the Gold Country"

**Non-Fiction about the raid on Rancharia and other Gold Rush Bad Guys like Joaquin Murrieta**

**Soon to be Released**

"Jed 'The Gunfighter' "

"Jed Revenges the Murder of His Parents"