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SUNSET MAGAZINES - BOOKS - FILMS

F. E. SHAW  
Administrative Assistant  
to the Chairman

October 19, 1979

1325 10/22/79

Dr. Glenn Seaborg  
Lawrence Berkeley Lab  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720

Dear Dr. Seaborg:

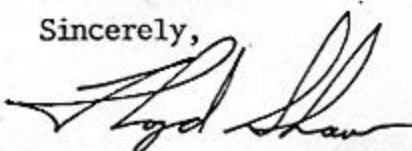
It was very nice to visit with you on the phone. I understand SUNSET's Managing Editor Bill Marken and/or one of his colleagues has already been in touch with you regarding the American Hiking Society and its interesting cross country hike. As Mr. Marken has explained there is a possibility for a small article next year and we look forward to working with you on this.

I believe I mentioned to you that Bill Lane was at home recuperating from some back surgery. He is coming along quite well and during a visit with him yesterday I mentioned your phone call. Bill was very pleased that you had contacted this office and asked me to convey his best personal regards.

Another close friend of Bill and Jean Lane's who you may know is Mr. Daniel Boorstin, the Librarian of Congress. Both Bill and Mr. Boorstin serve on the Colonial Williamsburg Board of Trustees and have a mutual interest in hiking. Bill tells me both the Boorstins are avid hikers and he has been trying to get them out here to the Sierras for some time. By copy of this letter and on Bill's instructions I am informing Mr. and Mrs. Boorstin of your interesting project. Perhaps they will be in touch with you.

Thank you again for calling.

Sincerely,



FES/jlj

cc: Craig Evans  
Monty Montgomery  
James Kern  
Mike McReynolds ✓

# Sunset

MAGAZINE

LANE PUBLISHING CO.

January 7, 1980

Mike McReynolds  
Skinner & Company  
110 Sutter Street, Suite 1003  
San Francisco, California 94104

Dear Mike:

Here's a preliminary draft of our proposed article on the trans-America hike. I realize that some details can't be confirmed as yet, but I would appreciate your comments and suggestions at this early stage.

Before the article closes for our April issue, I'll send an updated version for last-minute corrections.

A reply envelope is enclosed.

Cordially,



Sam Connery  
Senior Editor

SC:cd  
Enc.  
cc: Mr. James Kern



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Writer CONNERY Issue APRIL Zone C Length \_\_\_\_\_

Working Title Hike-a-nation walk Layout MRK art

10 20 30 40 50 60

1 April 12 is kick-off day for what will likely be the longest mass hike of  
2 the decade: a 2,947-mile odyssey that begins in San Francisco and ends a  
3 year later in Washington, D. C..

*correct?*

582

4  
5 Who would go on such a trek? Not many. But many more ~~would~~ <sup>would</sup> be happy to  
6 join in for a day or two or even a week. That's the expectation of the  
7 sponsors, the American Hiking Society, who want ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> publicize the need for  
8 more hiking trails in our increasingly ~~connected~~ <sup>concreted</sup> nation.

*would*

*concreted*

9  
10 The 265-mile, 24-day California part of the trek has been devised and walked  
11 by noted chemist Glenn T. Seaborg. He and his fellow walkers (possibly  
12 10,000 strong) will assemble at the Polo Grounds in Golden Gate Park on  
13 Saturday, April 12, before 10 A. M.. After preliminary ceremonies, hosted  
14 by XXXXXXXXXXXX, the wanderers will proceed along Kennedy Drive, the  
15 Panhandle, Hayes Street, 10th Street, Mission Street, and XXXXXXXX to parking  
16 lots near the Bay Bridge (registered hikers can sleep here).

*route to Bay Bridge?*

17 Next day begins at 6 A.M. with a 9-mile walk across the Bay Bridge; for  
18 the occasion, ~~existing lanes and one buffer lane~~ <sup>two lanes</sup> of the top deck will be

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10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

1 closed to car traffic. Some 15,000 people are expected to take advantage  
2 of this rare opportunity to cross the Bay on foot. The walk then continues  
3 5 miles to overnight campsites in the East Bay hills.

4  
5 *Each* Succeeding ~~day~~ will see hikers cover 8 to 15 miles ~~daily~~ <sup>on</sup> route to such  
6 places as Brannan Island, Folsom, Placerville, Kyburz, and Echo Summit.

7  
8 You can join the trekkers ~~in~~ any day. Cost to register (by mail in advance,  
9 or at tables at the starting point each day) is \$XX, which gets you a badge\*,  
10 itinerary details, and XXXXXXXX, and gives you preference for such "campsites"  
11 as may be available for the night -- in a park, ranch, or assembly hall,  
12 as arranged by the organizers. ~~All who join are expected to bring their~~  
13 own food, bedroll, and tent or waterproof cover. The Sierra crossing, and  
14 *hiking* the hike east of there, may require winter gear.

*Correct?*  
*known yet?*

*true?*

*You'll have to* bring *your*

15 For a detailed itinerary of the California, Nevada, Utah, and Colorado  
16 segments of the trek, and for information on registering, send 50 cents  
17 to Monty Montgomery, 18600 S. W. 157th. Avenue, Miami, 33187.

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Writer CONNERY Issue April Zone C Length \_\_\_\_\_

Working Title Hike-a-nation walk Layout \_\_\_\_\_ Art \_\_\_\_\_

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

1 The first four months of hiking  
 2 proceed from the mild Pacific  
 3 to the cold and perhaps wet or snowy  
 4 reaches of the Sierra Nevada  
 5 and the Rocky Mountains

*Map Caption*

8 Checking out a walking route in Golden  
 9 Gate Park last year, Glenn Seaborg  
 10 pauses to chat with a mounted policeman

*Photo caption*

*Bridge caption to come*

January 8, 1980

Mr. Sam Connery  
Senior Editor  
SUNSET MAGAZINE  
Lane Publishing Company  
Willow and Middlefield Roads  
Menlo Park, California 94025

Dear Sam,

Thanks for the advance preview of the article. There are a few changes I would recommend here and there.

First off, we use the spelling HikaNation for the event.

Since we will be hiking in a convoluted fashion across the country, the actual mileage of the hike has not yet been officially tallied up. It would be safe to say "an over 3,000 mile odyssey that begins..." We not only want to publicize the need for more hiking trails, but also the activity of hiking by individuals and families as healthy and energy-saving.

In your third paragraph, you might say "noted chemist and Nobel Laureate Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg." The use of the word "wanderers" in that paragraph connotes no specific goal (as in wandering around aimlessly); perhaps a better word would be simply "hikers" or "trekkers". The actual route of the first day has been changed. We leave the Polo Grounds and head out to the beach, then north to Cliff House, through Land's End, Baker Beach, Presidio, the Golden Gate Promenade along the Bay, Fort Mason, and the Embarcadero to parking lots near the Bay Bridge. This gives us a more scenic opening day than traversing city streets.

Mr. Sam Connery  
January 8, 1980  
Page Two

The crossing of the Bay Bridge on the top deck is a singular event because this is the first (and probably only) time lanes on the top deck will be closed for foot traffic. Also, this is the first time that ordinary walkers (not runners in a marathon) will have the bridge open to them. Unlike the Golden Gate bridge, no one has ever walked the entire length of the Bay Bridge since it opened in the late 30's.

The crossing of the Sierra will be done in the late spring over traveled roads, so the snow conditions could be considered to be "spring snow". Heavy winter gear probably will be unneeded and will constitute extra weight. If weather conditions become serious there will be many places to hole-up until it blows over as the route will virtually parallel Highway 50 up and over Echo Pass. Once over the Pass and out of the Sierra, mild spring conditions are expected.

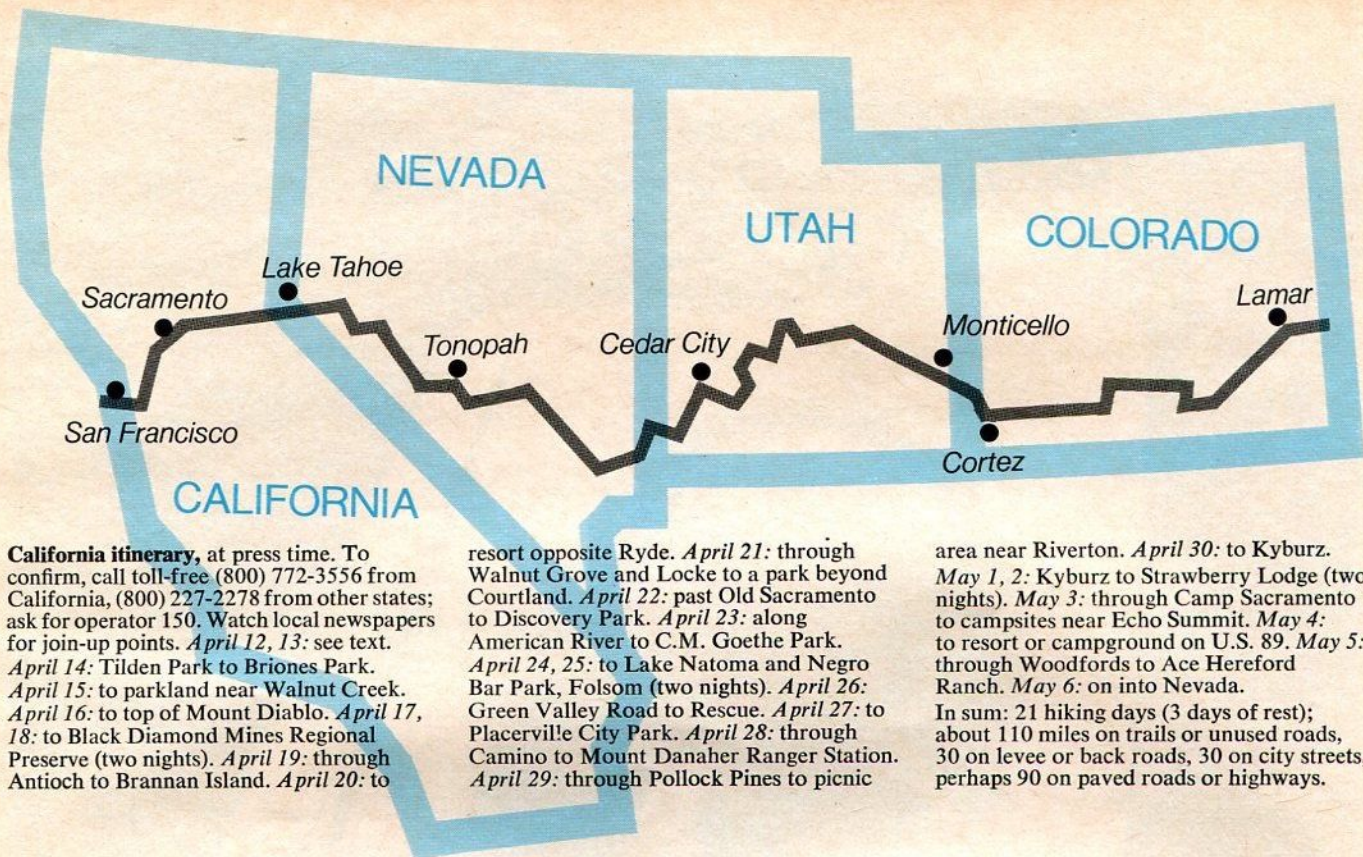
The registration information and other blank sports will be filled in as soon as I get the information to pass on to you. By the way, you should insert The American Hiking Society after Monty Montgomery's name in the mailing address. I have a good glossy reproduction of the route map if you wish to have it. In the caption for the mounted policeman picture, again Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg.

I'll keep you posted on events as they transpire. Again, thanks for the copy of the draft article.

Sincerely yours,

Mike McReynolds

MM/  
cc: Jim Kern



**California itinerary**, at press time. To confirm, call toll-free (800) 772-3556 from California, (800) 227-2278 from other states; ask for operator 150. Watch local newspapers for join-up points. *April 12, 13*: see text. *April 14*: Tilden Park to Briones Park. *April 15*: to parkland near Walnut Creek. *April 16*: to top of Mount Diablo. *April 17, 18*: to Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve (two nights). *April 19*: through Antioch to Brannan Island. *April 20*: to

resort opposite Ryde. *April 21*: through Walnut Grove and Locke to a park beyond Courtland. *April 22*: past Old Sacramento to Discovery Park. *April 23*: along American River to C.M. Goethe Park. *April 24, 25*: to Lake Natoma and Negro Bar Park, Folsom (two nights). *April 26*: Green Valley Road to Rescue. *April 27*: to Placerville City Park. *April 28*: through Camino to Mount Danaher Ranger Station. *April 29*: through Pollock Pines to picnic

area near Riverton. *April 30*: to Kyburz. *May 1, 2*: Kyburz to Strawberry Lodge (two nights). *May 3*: through Camp Sacramento to campsites near Echo Summit. *May 4*: to resort or campground on U.S. 89. *May 5*: through Woodfords to Ace Hereford Ranch. *May 6*: on into Nevada. In sum: 21 hiking days (3 days of rest); about 110 miles on trails or unused roads, 30 on levee or back roads, 30 on city streets, perhaps 90 on paved roads or highways.

## Cross-country hike... join up for a day or more

**Saturday, April 12**, is kick-off day for what may well be the longest mass hike of the decade: a 4,500-mile odyssey called HikeaNation that begins in San Francisco and ends a year later in Washington, D.C.

Who would go on such a trek? Not many. But many more hikers might join in for a day or two, or even a week. That's the expectation of the sponsors, the American Hiking Society (AHS) and the U.S. Department of the Interior, who want to publicize the need for more walking and hiking trails in our increas-

ingly concreted nation.

The 265-mile, 24-day stretch across California has been devised and walked by noted chemist Glenn T. Seaborg. He and his fellow walkers (possibly 10,000 strong) will assemble at the polo field in Golden Gate Park on April 12, before 10 A.M. After preliminary ceremonies, the group will proceed 11 miles through the Presidio to parking lots near the Bay Bridge (through hikers can sleep here).

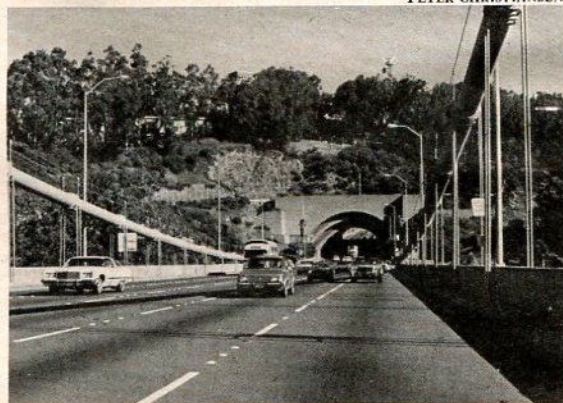
Next day begins at 6 A.M. with a 7-mile walk across the Bay Bridge, if present plans jell. Some 15,000 people are ex-

pected to take advantage of this unique opportunity. For the occasion, two lanes of the top deck will be closed to car traffic. For those wanting to return to their cars afterwards, city buses, BART, and AHS-arranged shuttle buses are all possibilities (bus and BART pickup points are near the east end of the bridge).

Those continuing on will proceed 8 miles to overnight campsites in the East Bay hills. Succeeding days bring hikes of 8 to 15 miles as the group passes through Brannan Island, Folsom, Placerville, Kyburz, and Echo Summit. More than half of the route is on trails, fire roads, and lightly traveled back roads; busy highways and city streets are used only when there's no reasonable alternative.

You can join the trekkers any day. Cost to register for the opening weekend is \$3, payable at tables at the starting point on either day. Registrants get a patch, itinerary details, a star clock, and possibly discount coupons for shops and restaurants. Overnighting sites range from parks and campgrounds to ranch meadows. You'll have to bring your own food and personal gear, sleeping bag, and tent or waterproof cover. The Sierra crossing may require cold-weather clothing.

For a detailed itinerary of the California segments and for long-distance hiking information, send 50 cents to Monty Montgomery, AHS, 18600 S.W. 157th Ave., Miami 33187. □



Checking out a walking route in Golden Gate Park last year, Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg chats with a mounted policeman. Above, Sunday walkers on the Bay Bridge will have this view as they approach Treasure Island; right two lanes will be closed to traffic

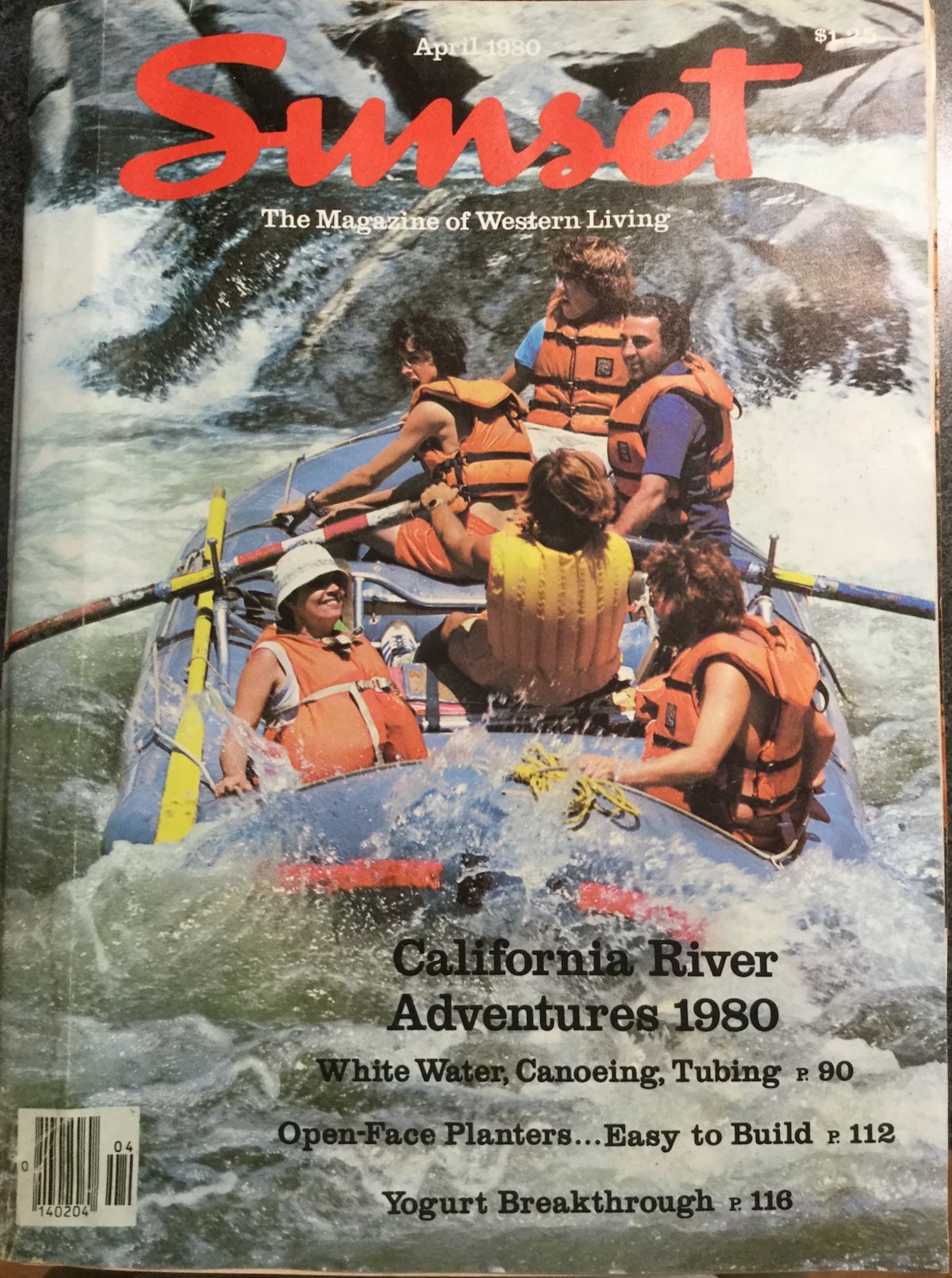


April 1980

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# Summet

The Magazine of Western Living



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