



Good Neighbor Peak and Mt. Vancouver viewed from Pt. 2,930m on Latus Pass Arm. Roger Wallis

cornice that stuck out 100' over the face.

Our descent down the east ridge was involved, with multiple rappels off of buried snow-filled stuff sacks. We downclimbed moderate-to-steep sections for hours, finally arriving at a gully which led back to the glacier 2,000' below. We committed to the gully and began "burning" the rack as each rap station ate gear. When we finally arrived on the glacier below, each of us had downclimbed 400' sections to string together scarce rap stations. We were out of pitons, slings, and a good portion of the wired nuts. We hadn't found any ice that would enable an ice rappel. We staggered into base camp after 42 hours of effort. Carlos swore that he was done with light-and-fast modern style. I'm still not sure what I learned, as I am soon headed back to Alaska for more.

GLENN DUNMIRE, AAC

*Good Neighbor Peak, southeast ridge and clarification; Mt. Vancouver, St. Elias Range, Alaska and Canada.* Paul Barry and I climbed a new route on the southeast face of Good Neighbor Peak (15,700') during May 18-21. We also completed the two-mile traverse to the higher summit of Mt. Vancouver (15,787') before descending our route. Ours was the fifth ascent of Good Neighbor Peak and the sixth of Mt. Vancouver. Only the 1967 Centennial expedition had reported climbing both peaks. Our southeast ridge route on Good Neighbor (Alaska Grade 3) is bounded on the left by the 1967 Centennial (south-southeast) Rib and the 1979 East Buttress route on the right. All three routes are visible in the Bradford Washburn photograph highlighting the adjacent South Spur (AAJ 1994, p. 88). Further research identified a similar Washburn photograph from the 1992 *Canadian Alpine Journal* (p. 13) that incorrectly labeled our then-unclimbed route as the Centennial Rib, confirmed by articles in the 1968 AAJ and *Expedition Yukon*, published in

1972. The traverse between Good Neighbor Peak and Mt. Vancouver is best seen in a Washburn photograph in the 1978 *AAJ* (p. 544).

Paul Claus of Ultima Thule Outfitters landed us one mile south of our ridge at 7,800' on the Valerie Glacier (Alaska) on May 17. The next morning, Paul and I cached our skis in the bergshroud at 9,300' and started climbing east-facing snow slopes to gain our ridge. Four pitches of 50° snow led to the knife-edge crest that we followed for two pitches to the base of a prominent red rock pyramid at 10,000'. This start avoided difficult rock lower down, where the ridge spine meets the glacier. We belayed three rotten class 5 pitches, then scrambled to the top of a small snow dome, at 10,650' atop the rock pyramid, where we camped after 11 hours of climbing. The next morning we descended steeply for 100' to a col. Above, four pitches of 45° snow led to a two-pitch knife-edge ice ridge, all of which we protected with running belays using pickets and ice screws. At 11,100' our rocky ridge blended into the glaciated upper southeast face. Technical terrain transitioned to post-holing through knee-to- thigh-deep snow until monstrous crevasses forced a 1/2-mile traverse west toward the Centennial Route. We wallowed an ascending trough up and left, intersecting the Centennial Route at 13,700', placing our second and final camp at 14,300' just below the crest of the east buttress after 10 hours of climbing. Paul and I left camp at 8 a.m. the following morning and made a descending traverse into the prominent 14,100' col on the east buttress proper. We simul-climbed the final exposed 1,500' to Good Neighbor Peak, bypassing most technical difficulties on the north, reaching the summit at noon and crossing into Canada. The two-mile ridge to Mt. Vancouver was interrupted by three intermediate summits, the last of which proved the most difficult, with its exposed knife-edge ridge. At 5:30 p.m. Paul and I stood atop Canada's Mt. Vancouver, becoming its first visitors in 26 years. Six hours of careful downclimbing found us back at high camp, completing our 15-hour day. Our fourth and final day was spent descending to base camp, rappelling most of the ridge below 11,100'. Paul Claus returned for us on May 27 to shuttle us 50 miles north to Canada's King Peak (16,995'), where we made our third unsuccessful attempt in three years.

DAVE HART, AAC

*Mount Vancouver (15,787') and Good Neighbor Peak (15,700') complete climbing history. All climbs are described in the following year's AAJ.*

1949: Mt. Vancouver (first ascent), via northwest ridge

1967: Good Neighbor and Vancouver, (first ascent of Good Neighbor), via south-south east rib

1968: Good Neighbor, via west-south ridge

1975: Vancouver, via north buttress

1975: Vancouver, via northeast ridge

1977: Vancouver, via west face

1979: Good Neighbor (to 15,000'), via east buttress

1993: Good Neighbor, via south spur

1994: Good Neighbor, via south spur

2003: Good Neighbor and Vancouver, via southeast ridge

DAVE HART, AAC