LCBA’s “BEE TEAM”
Swarm & Colony Removal Adventures

2013 Edition
Featuring: Death-Defying Feats!

(OK, this guy is actually a Nepalese cliffside honey hunter...)
Extreme Sports

(No, you don’t have to do this to join the Bee Team...
Massive Laundry Consequences

(Norm claims this suit actually responded to washing. . . .)
But seriously: it’s a good time...
...and you get to save bees!
2013: 41 Recorded Removals
~ but there were numerous others

At least:
• 12 in Centralia
• 5 in Chehalis
• 7 in Onalaska
• 7 in East County
• 6 in Winlock / Toledo
• 4 others

16 swarms / 25 colonies
“Hot Spots” included Salzer Valley in Centralia & Leonard Road in Onalaska
Team Leaders

LCBA President Norm Switzler
Rob Jenkins
a.k.a. “The Bee Wrangler”
Kevin Reichert & Grant Inmon
(“Will remove bees for honey” ;)

(Photograph of two men holding jars of honey.)
Many thanks to others who did their own removals of colonies or swarms!

- Bruce Casaw
- Dave Gaston
- Peter Glover
- Mel Grigorich
- Rich Harned
- Courtney Miller
- Gary Stelzner
- Matt & Jennifer Taylor
- Kent Yates
- ...and anyone else who didn’t tell us!

(FYI: You don’t have to do this, either...)
Thanks to those who assisted our team leaders!

With apologies to anyone we missed...

- Gordon Bellevue
- Paul Frizzell & sons
- Mike Helms
- Herb & Maggie Keeling
- Linda Newton
- Terrie & Michaela Phillips
- Jeanne Reichert
- Matt & Jennifer Taylor
- Tomme Trikosko
- Jon Wade

Winlock VFW Hall Removal
May 11, 2013
So what’s involved in removals?
While the colony is exposed, frames must be made ready for comb.
Winlock VFW Removal: May 11
Exposing the colony
Up the ladder to cut out comb....
Moving comb & skewering into frames: it’s important to preserve cell orientation!
Get comb framed & colony housed for transport
Some removals get complex...

June 1, Highway 12, Ethel
Note pristine comb with brood & even queen cells
Carefully removing brood comb
Brood from a removal can be made a split ~ & become your next colony.
Bees get into the darndest places

July, 2013; Bogar Road, Chehalis
Get ready to get sticky...
And to have a great time.
How Removals Get Scheduled

• Homeowners call...

• A Bee Team Leader visits to assess:
  – Feasibility of job?
  – Bees, not wasps, etc.?

• Team leader schedules removal date

• If a team is needed, email goes out

Homeowners like to watch....
What should you bring?

- Protective gear
- Hive tools
- Nuc box & deep hive body/bodies
- Empty frames
- A drill is good
- Bamboo skewers
- Ladders are useful
- A pop-up for shelter
- Tub for comb
- Food & water
- A sense of humor
- And......?
Kevin’s Observation Nuc
Any Volunteers for 2014?