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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ADVANCED FIREFIGHTER TRAINING COMES TO HAILEY

First Annual Advanced Hands On Training Given to Firefighters from Throughout Southern Idaho

Firefighters from throughout southern Idaho received advanced hands on training the weekend of May 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> in Hailey. The training was sponsored by the Hailey Fire Department and given by both the Puget Sound and Southwest Washington FOOLS. FOOLS (Fraternal Order Of



Leatherhead Society) are and organization dedicated to preserving the rich tradition and heritage of the fire service, that has a passion for the camaraderie and brotherhood that is forged between firefighters, and that believes in providing real fire training for real firefighters. Firefighters trained in initial officer tactics, advanced rope rescue skills, firefighter rescue, ladder operations, entrapment, advanced auto extrication, vertical

At Left: F.O.O.L.S. instructors demonstrate pointers on ventilating a roof

ventilation and forcible entry.

Hailey Fire Department Engineer Jared Larna, who organized the class, said “we wanted to bring more advanced and realistic training to firefighters in our area. These types of hands on, practical exercises are directly related to our performance. We had a group of over two dozen instructors come in, and we were able to both learn a lot from them, and show them some of the ways we do things. It was great to be able to learn from each other. The weekend started with live fire training on Thursday and Friday, we had an open house and social get together on Friday night at Sweetwater Grange and we trained hard all day Saturday and Sunday. It was a great weekend.”

The Hailey Fire Department is a group of 30 professional firefighters, the vast majority of whom have other jobs and are paid for their time on emergencies and at training. Members of the Department spend thousands of hours a year training and responding to emergencies, and the Department has one of the highest ratings, at low cost, in southern Idaho.



At Right: Firefighters practice rapid laddering for rescue (location courtesy of Sweetwater Hailey)