



This year the ham committee members in attendance at the February 9 meeting decided to attend the 2011 Mike and Key Club annual Hamfest in Puyallup in lieu of having a spring Radio Rendezvous.

The wiki definition of a **Hamfest** is: *an event organized by amateur radio enthusiasts, for social gathering and promotion of the amateur radio hobby. Most feature a **flea market** where the attendees buy and sell radio and related equipment. The equipment found at a hamfest can vary significantly from the newest high-tech gear to used, refurbished, or even antique equipment, and **haggling** or bargaining is the most common means of sale.*



The tables are filled with equipment from every era. Here is a large collection of transmitters and receivers from the 1950s and 60s.



As with all things, the “early bird gets the worm.” The line was forming at 8:00 a.m. for the 9:00 a.m. opening. Some guys have “for sale” tables not only to move their stuff, but get access to the really good bargains before the hoards are let in the door.



Vice Commodore Chuck Lowery (K1CRL) and Bill Whitney (W070) look over the new equipment.



There were exhibits by new equipment manufacturers, such as ICOM, showing off their IC-7800 transceiver.

Beyond the junk boxes there were exhibitors representing amateur public safety organizations, special operating mode groups and radio clubs from around the Puget Sound. As always license examination sessions were held for those wanting a new license or an upgrade.

Coming up is the **Sea-Pac Hamfest**, June 3-5 at the Seaside Convention Center, Seaside, OR.

Of course the big daddy of them all is the **Dayton Hamvention**, Dayton, OH on May 20-22. 🌀

W7SYC – For more information about our radio activities, the Seattle Yacht Club Amateur Radio Committee or getting an amateur radio license, call Dan Withers at (206) 947-2303 or email dwithers@rodaxwireless.com

