

# Not just a hobby

Members of the Old Post Amateur Radio Society gather every year for connections, friendships and disaster preparedness, too

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This weekend — for a solid 24 hours — the rooms inside WEP Asphalt in Westport, Illinois, filled with the sounds of radio static, hissing and chattering voices, as members of the Old Post Amateur Radio Society looked to make connections all over the country.

It's an exercise in camaraderie and friendship — all of them coming together to celebrate a shared hobby — but their goal is bigger, much bigger.

“In the event of an emergency in communications, something like a storm or a tornado, if all communication goes down, cell towers, radios for ambulance, law enforcement, if there are no communications at all,” ventured Bill Powe, the club's vice-president, “we can move in and have it set up within two hours.

“That's really what we're



Sun-Commercial photo by Jenny McNiece

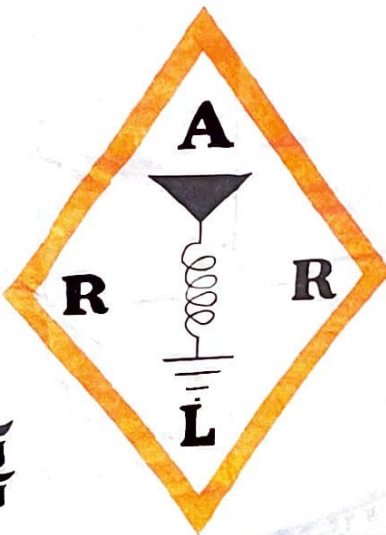
Members of the Old Post Amateur Radio Society work to make connections all over the country and in Canada this weekend as part of their annual Field Day, a day set aside for camaraderie but also to ensure Knox County is safe in the event of a communications disaster.

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