

**Name: Don Bardwell**

**Call sign: WA5PRI**

**Class: Amateur Extra**

**First License: 1965**

**Brief Biography:**

I am a retired Professor of Mathematics at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, LA and enjoy the life of retirement. With the support of my two Elmers Dale Turner K4WJV and Lanny Delaney WA4MIY I began my licensed amateur radio operation as a general class operator with call sign WA5PRI in April 1965 while a student at Clemson University. I joined the Thibodaux Amateur Radio Club in 1969 at which time Jim Verret K5JKR(SK) became my Elmer as he did for so many members of our club and amateurs of our region. During my over 50 years as an active licensed ham I have served as a member of Army MARS, participant in the National Traffic System (NTS), held every office in our club, and served as a volunteer examiner for FCC licenses.

**What I enjoy about Amateur Radio:**

.My major thrill within amateur radio is having the experience of an old-fashioned QSO with radio signals through the ether of space. Having tried many facets of radio communication I settled into using CW as my primary interest in communication. Today my principal activities include having old-fashioned CW QSOs and serving as an Elmer for others through being a contact volunteer examiner and modeling good amateur practices in my radio communications and my spirit in serving our club

