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Southeast Louisiana CoCoRaHS Newsletter May 2009

Rainfall Highlights

The first half of April was somewhat wet with a significant rain event occurring during the 17th and 18th. Several locations picked up a few inches of rainfall during those wet days. Heavier rains in central Mississippi pushed the Pearl River into flood once again, after just coming off a major flood event in March. The latter part of April became rather dry across the southern half of the state thanks in large part to an early onset of the Bermuda ridge. The wettest location in the state of Louisiana in April was **Grand Coteau 2.7 E (LA-ST-1)** with **8.99 inches** of rainfall on a perfect 30 reports. In southeast Louisiana, the wettest monthly total was **5.08 inches** measured on 23 reports from **Old Jefferson 0.9 W (LA-EB-21)**. The wettest single day in Louisiana also came from **Grand Coteau 2.7 E (LA-ST-1)** with **4.27 inches** measured on the 19th. In southeast Louisiana, the single wettest day was recorded at **Franklinton 0.4 ENE (LA-WS-2)** with **2.26 inches** measured on April 13th. There was 1 hail report in the month reported on April 2nd at 110 pm with **¼ inch (pea) to 3/8 inch (small marble)** stones falling in **Abita Springs 0.8 SW (LA-ST-1)** – that happens to be me, but my wife was the one that saw the hail falling. I was at work at the time. I told you CoCoRaHS is fun for the whole family.

State of the network

Louisiana had 78 stations file 1676 reports over 30 days in April. This was one more station than in March. The most active days were 64 stations with reports of measurable rainfall on the mornings of April 18th and April 19th. The average daily rainfalls for those days were 1.02 inches and 0.96 inches, respectively. There were a total of 22 days out of the 30 that had at least one report of measurable rainfall across the entire Bayou State.

Open House

The National Weather Service Office in Slidell, LA is hosting an open house that is free to the general public on Saturday, May 16th, from 10 am until 4 pm. The open house will feature an opportunity to see live weather operations in our newly configured high impact office setting. Many of our partners will have displays including the Red Cross, Emergency Management agencies, Ozone Amateur Radio Club, St. Charles Parish Fire Department (tornado and fire trailer), St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Center, CoCoRaHS and other emergency response agencies. There will be a few activities for all ages and should be a fun outing for the entire family. The link below is a Google Map of our office location. The NWS office is pretty easy to find and easy to reach from any direction. Simply head towards I-12 to the Airport Drive/North Shore Blvd exit (Exit 80). Head north about 1 mile past the Target/Academy shopping center and Kangaroo gas station. You will see the big 'soccer ball' radar dome in the sky as you get close. Parking will be in a nearby church yard with a short walk on a paved walkway to our facility. We are in the building just below the radar with the large NOAA emblem on the front. NWS Slidell map at the link below --

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msa=0&msid=110832150870357674135.00046951114b692fad30e&hl=en&ie=UTF8&ll=30.34325,-89.834175&spn=0.153183,0.219727&z=12>

***HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY MAY 16TH!!!
KEEP THOSE RAINFALL AND HAIL REPORTS COMING!!!***