

## February 2011 Calendar

Wx. Guide Calendar with Phenomenal Weather Events 2010

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**Feb. 3, 1999** It was a dangerous jobs for both the rescued and rescuer. The Northern Aurora (12 men on board) capsized in high seas/freezing spray in AK's Resurrection Bay. The Coast Guard rescued 1. USGC report noted N winds to 58 mph, seas to 8 feet, heavy fog, and wind chills to -65 degrees.

**Feb. 5, 2008** Close call! Thunderstorm downburst winds to 80 mph buckled much of the sheathing of the expansion roof over the gymnasium and library of South Central HS in Farina, IL. A basketball game was being played at the time, but no injuries occurred.

**Feb. 7, 2009** Impressive! Melbourne, Australia, baked in its hottest day in 150 years of weather record keeping. Today's high of 116 degrees broke the previous record of 114 degrees set on January 13, 1939. The 116 degree reading also broke the old February record of 110 degrees.

**Feb. 8, 1957 (7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>)** Ice storms occur in Hawaii? 3 inches of clear ice up to 8 inches on downwind sides (SSW) of poles) collected on surfaces at the top of Mt. Haleakala, Maui (elevation approximately 10,000 feet). 3 miles of power lines toppled. Wind gusts to 100 mph; coldest temperatures approximately 24 degrees.

**Feb. 10, 2009** Oklahoma deadliest (8 killed) and strongest (EF4) February tornado of record damaged/destroyed many homes/businesses in/around Lone Grove. Many mobile homes obliterated, with few recognizable pieces left. 1 fatality occurred when the tornado hit a truck on I-35.

**Feb. 11, 1999** An F1 tornado did much damage to the ET Dunlap Center and nearby Kiamichi Tech Center in Idabel, Oklahoma. An instructor called in sick; the class was cancelled; a damaged roof collapsed into the empty classroom. Good time for sickness!

**Feb. 13, 1994** Good thing a picnic was not taking place. A F0 tornado hit Kamper's West Park near Warrenton, OR. It lifted approximately 20 wooden picnic tables (some to 40 feet above the ground) and threw them 200 yards.

**Feb. 15, 2000** Amarillo, TX, set unusual temperature records today. The high of 82 degrees smashed the old daily high of 76 degrees set in 1921, and the morning low of 41 degrees broke the old high low record for the date of 40 degrees (also set in 1921).

**Feb. 16, 2001** a car often is a poor place of shelter from a tornado; they can be lifted, rolled, bounced, crumpled, etc. A lady abandoned her car for a ditch as a tornado approached Mississippi Holmes County State Park; the car was blown on top of her; she died.

**Feb. 17, 1971** The weather was changeable in NW Pennsylvania. Along a 1-mile stretch of I-80 in Venango County, 9 accidents occurred due to icy roads. In Sharon, an unusual wake-up call for a man when he was “knocked” from his bed when lightning hit his house. A fire also resulted.

**Feb. 20, 1971 (20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>)** Blizzard blanketed TX Panhandle with 6-26 inches (in Follett) snow; drifts to 12 feet deep. Some cattle from wheat pastures strayed 45 miles when electric fences shorted out from snow. 13,000 head of cattle killed, many smothered or trampled when groups bunched up to keep warm.

**Feb. 21, 1971** The power of a “weak” tornado. In Lincoln, TX, a small tornado lifted the awning/steel roof of a building 100 feet; 2 x4 lumber pieces were hurled into the ground “like a stake.” Several men were unable to budge them when they attempted to pull them from the ground.

**Feb. 22, 1997** It was rare for the location as wintertime lightning occurred at Oxford, NH. 1 bolt hit a tree and traveled to an underground cable which exploded. A ditch in the frozen ground 75 feet long and up to 4 feet deep resulted. A different bolt struck another tree, killing a chained dog.

**Feb. 23, 1999 (23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>)** Mount Baker Ski Area (WA) set the all-time U.S. snow season (7/1 through 6/30) record of 1,140 inches. For the 1<sup>st</sup> time in its 33 years, the ski area was closed because of too much snow. Chairlifts/parking areas had to be dug out/plowed.

**Feb. 24, 2001** In a house without a basement, a small interior room/closet on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor often provides the best area for tornado survival. In Greenwood, MS, a F3 tornado destroyed all but the 1<sup>st</sup> floor bathroom of a 2-story house. A family of 4 survived in that room.

**Feb. 26, 1994** It is hard to dress for this kind of weather. 2 ice climbers froze to death near the top of Pinnacle Gully about 1,000 feet below the summit of NH's Mt. Washington. Summit winds gusted to 90 mph. Temperature was -20 degrees; wind chill was -68 degrees.

**Feb. 28, 1887** It is too bad we don't have videotape of the event! Snowflakes “larger than milk pans” reportedly fell near Fort Keogh, MT. They measured 15 inches across by 8 inches thick.