

My name is Keith Heidorn.

If you asked me to describe myself in the context of the Weather Doctor, I would tell you that I am both an artist and a scientist who is deeply involved with the weather and other atmospheric phenomena on many levels. I have had a love affair with the weather for about 45 years. You see, I think that weather is the most sensual aspect of life, stimulating all my senses at one time or another and often several at once. I was born in Chicago and grew up in northeastern Illinois where I first fell in love with the weather. The Great Lakes region has its variety of weather extremes generally with a rapid turnover of daily weather events.

"<http://www.glenallenweather.com/historylinks/wxdoc/jan.htm>" Ref. Wx.Doctor

United States

1 May 1857, Washington, DC: The Washington Evening Star publishes the first US national weather summary using observations from volunteers to the Smithsonian Institution's cooperative network.

1-2 May 1935, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Snow, ice and sleet blanket parts of southeast Minnesota. Minneapolis receives 3 inches (7.5 cm) of snow.

1-10 May 2003, South and Central United States: More tornadoes, 412, strike the United States during this stretch than any other ten-day period since records began in 1950. A total of 42 storm-related deaths are reported.

2 May 1899, Havre, Montana: A late-season snowstorm buries Havre under 24.8 inches (63 cm) of snow, an all-time record for the city.

2 May 1989, Juneau, Alaska and Honolulu, Hawaii: A day of contrast as Juneau sets a record high with a reading of 72 °F (22.2 °C), while Honolulu drops to record of 60 °F (15.6 °C).

3 May 1982, Kanab, Utah: Sinbad the Sailor, the horse which US President Ronald Reagan's rode in the Death Valley Days TV show, is struck by lightning and killed .

3 May 2001, Portland, Maine: Maximum temperature reaches 92 °F (33.3 °C) destroying the old record of 74 °F (23.3 °C) set in 1969. The airport station also set the warmest low and warmest average with temperatures of 57 °F (13.9 °C) and 75 °F (23.9 °C), respectively

4 May 1915, Northwest Texas: A late-season snowstorm drops up to eight inches (20 cm) of snow on Potter and Armstrong Counties.

4 May 2007, Greensburg, Kansas: A devastating EF5 twister demolishes nearly every structure in Greensburg around 9:30 pm (CDT) and kills ten. The mammoth wedge tornado cuts a swath 1.7 miles (2.7 km) wide and 22 miles (35 km) long across the Kansas landscape. It is the worst single tornado to touch down in the US in eight years.

4-5 May 2003, Central United States: The deadliest outbreak of severe weather since May 1999 produces 84 tornadoes, large hail and damaging winds across eight states. At least 38 people are killed in Kansas, Missouri and Tennessee.

5 May 1930, College Park, Virginia: An unusual heat wave commences with a bang, the College Park temperature rockets from 43°F (6.1 °C) to 93°F (33.9 °C).

6 May 1937, Lakehurst, New Jersey: The Hindenburg Disaster; was weather to blame for infamous Zeppelin fire? Thunderstorms reported in area delay docking for two hours .

6 May 1999, Orlando, Florida: Double record day in Orlando. High temperature reaches 94 °F (34.4 °C) and late day cloudburst dumps short-period record rainfall of 1.21 inches (30.7mm) of rain.

7 May 1964, White Mountain 2, California,: The temperature drops to -15°F (-26.1 °C) to set the record May low for the continental U.S.

7 May 2008, Casper, Wyoming,: In mid-afternoon, a tornado touches down on the south side of Casper, reportedly lifting a car but causes no injury damage.

8 May 1784, Winnsborough, South Carolina: Deadly hailstorm in South Carolina hits the town of Winnsborough. The hailstones, measuring as much as nine inches (22.9 cm) in circumference, killed several persons, and a great number of sheep, lambs and birds.

8 May 1840, Natchez, Mississippi: Second deadliest tornado in US history strikes Natchez and Natchez Landing on the Mississippi, killing 317.

8 May 2009, Carbondale, Illinois: A deadly derecho squall line rakes far southern Illinois at midday devastating the Carbondale area on its way across a 1,200-mile (1920 km) swath of terrain covering sections of nine states where hundreds of homes and businesses are damaged or destroyed in Kansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri. The wind gusts to 106 mph (170 km/h) in the Carbondale area with sustained winds measured at up to 90 mph (144 km/h). In southern Illinois, the storm system peels siding and roofs off homes and other buildings, blowing out car windows and tearing up trailer parks

9 May 1966, Ohio and Pennsylvania: Record May snows fall across northeastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania, including 3.1 inches (7.9 cm) at Pittsburgh PA and 5.4 inches (13.7 cm) at Youngstown OH. Snow also covers parts of New York State with 8 inches (20 cm) in the southern Adirondacks.

10 May 1905, Snyder, Oklahoma: A deadly tornado hits the town of Snyder killing 87 persons and leveling 100 homes. The large, violent tornado kills 97 persons along its 40-mile (64 km) path across southwestern Oklahoma.

10 May 1987, Lillian, Alabama: Thunderstorms along the Central Gulf Coast deluge Lillian with 14.5 inches (368 mm) of rain

11 May 1953, Waco, Texas: A terrifying F5 tornado rips through downtown Waco, Texas, killing 114 people and injuring nearly 600 more. More than 850 homes, 600 businesses, and 2,000 cars are destroyed or severely damaged. Losses have been estimated at \$41 million (\$275 million in 2002 dollars). The tornado is the deadliest in Texas history and the tenth deadliest in the US.

11 May 2003, Nashville, Tennessee: A total of 4.63 inches (117.6 mm) of rain fall, breaking the previous 24-hour record for the month.

11 May 2004, Hartley, Texas: A tornado derails a Burlington Northern Santa Fe train, sending 15 empty coal cars and two locomotives off the tracks near this Panhandle town.

12 May 1971, Casa Grande, Arizona: A duststorm drops visibility on Interstate Highway 10 near Casa Grande to near zero, causing chain reaction accidents that kill seven persons.

13 May 1930, Lubbock, Texas: A severe hailstorm kills a man caught in an open field northwest of Lubbock TX. It was the first authenticated death by hail in U.S. weather records.

13 May 2008, Shreveport-Bossier, Louisiana: Torrential rainfall breaks several records, including the most rain to fall in a 20-minute interval and the most rainfall in a 180-minute period. More than 10 inches (254 mm) of rain deluged the Shreveport area, flooding at least 125 homes. The National Weather Service reports 4.43 inches (113 mm) fell in one hour breaking the old record of 3.16 inches (80 mm).

14 May 1896, Climax, Colorado: The mercury plunges to -10°F (-23.3°C), at the time an American cold record for May.

15 May 1968, Anchorage, Alaska: Only tornado of record to have ever touched down in Alaska strikes near Anchorage.

16 May 1997, Sioux City, Iowa: Sioux City sets daily high and low records on same day: 91°F (32.8 °C) and 22°F (-5.6 °C), respectively. The record is fortuitous as on no earlier spring date was the record low temperature so high, and on only one May date was the record high any lower.

17 May 1979, Mauna Kea, Hawaii: All time record low for the state of 12 °F (-11 °C) is observed at Mauna Kea Observatory.

17-20 May 2009, Bunnell, Florida: By late Wednesday, Bunnell, in Flagler County, totals 23.75 inches (600 mm) of rain since Sunday. Rainfall on Wednesday alone totaled 9.27 inches (235 mm) at Jacksonville Naval Air Station and 6.74 inches (171 mm) at Daytona Beach.

18 May 1960, Salt Lake City, Utah: Salt Lake City receives an unexpected inch of snow, the latest measurable snowfall recorded to date.

19 May 1780, New England States: A smoky blackness settles over New England, possibly due to massive forest fires burning in western states. It is so dark that by noon, people have to light candles and lamps to see.

19 May 1955, Lake Maloya, New Mexico: Lake Maloya records 11.28 inches (28.65 cm) of rain in 24 hours, the state record.

19 May 2008, Southwest: Even by American desert standards, the searing heat is one for the books. Death Valley, California sizzles at 120°F (48.9°C) while residents of Phoenix, Arizona witness the year's first high of 110°F (43.3°C).

19 May 2009, Minnesota : At 4pm ,Granite Falls in southwestern Minnesota bakes with a temperature of 100°F (37.8°C) while residents of Grand Marais³ on the Lake Superior shore shiver with a 34°F (1.1°C reading: a difference of 66 F) degrees (36.7 C degrees)

20 May 1916, 1917, 1918, Codell, Kansas: Codell is hit by a tornado on May 20th for three consecutive years. Each successive one is more damaging. The tornadoes are estimated to be F2, F3 and F4 respectively on the Fujita Scale.

20 May 1966, Hilo, Hawaii: Hilo's hottest day on record: 94°F (34.4°C)

21 May 1860, Ohio Valley: A swarm of tornadoes strike the cities of Louisville, Kentucky, Cincinnati, Ohio, Chillicothe, Ohio, and Marietta, Ohio, causing an estimated million dollars in damage.

22 May 1911, Lewiston, Maine: The temperature soars to 101 °F (38.3 °C), the hottest temperature recorded to date in New England during May.

22-23 May 1996, Ninnekah, Oklahoma: A heat burst sends the temperature soaring from the low 80s F (~28 °C) to 105 °F (40.6 °C), between 11 pm and 3 am.

22 May 2006, Las Vegas, Nevada: Las Vegas reports its lowest May barometric pressure on record: 982 mb (29.27 inches)

23 May 1882, Washington, Iowa: An unusual late season snowfall blankets Washington area with 4-6 inches (10-15 cm).

24 May 1894, Kentucky: Second major snowfall in less than a week whitens parts of Kentucky.

25 May 1955, Blackwell, Oklahoma: Two tornadoes strike the town within a few minutes. The late-evening tornadoes kill 18 persons and injure over 500.

25-26 May 2003, Hilo, Hawaii: Daily high and low records both fall on consecutive days in Hilo. May 25 records record low of 60 °F (15.6 °C) and record high of 91 °F (32.8 °C), the next day records of 60 °F (15.6 °C) and 88 °F (31.1 °C) are registered.

26 May 1955, Udall, Kansas: An early-morning a tornado virtually obliterates the small community of Udall killing 80 persons and injuring 270.

26-27 May 2005, Seattle-Tacoma, Washington: PNW heat times two. High temperatures of 89 °F (31.7 °C) on the 26th and 27th at SeaTac International Airport breaks daily maximum records. The first breaks a 58-year-old record, the second a 33-year-old record for the date.

27 May 1896, St Louis, Missouri: Massive tornado strikes Saint Louis killing 306 persons and causing thirteen million dollars damage. The tornado path is short, but cut across a densely populated area. The tornado was the most destructive of record in the U.S. up until that time.

27 May 1931, Clay County, Minnesota: Tornado broadsides the Great Northern Railway's transcontinental passenger train The Empire Builder heading eastbound from Seattle to Chicago. 57 injured, and one killed.

27 May 2003, Broward Counties, Florida: As much as 11 inches (280 mm) of rain fall during the afternoon and evening hours in eastern Broward County, flooding streets with up to two feet (0.6 m) of water.

28 May 1947, Gay Mills, Wisconsin: Ten inches (25 cm) of snow down trees and power lines.

28 May 2003, Battle Mountain, Nevada: A new Nevada maximum temperature record for May is set when the high temperature rises to 102 °F (38.9 °C).

28-29 May 1877, Yuma Arizona: Two-day long sandstorm blasts Yuma.

28-29 May 1947, Wisconsin: An unprecedented late-spring snowstorm blasts portions of the Midwest from northern Iowa to eastern Upper Michigan. Hardest-hit is southwest Wisconsin where 10 inches (25 cm) of snow fell just south of La Crosse. The heavy snow causes severe damage to power and telephone lines and the already-leafed-out vegetation.

29 May 1988, Austin, Nevada: A powerful cold front brings snow and high winds to Nevada, blanketing Austin with 10 inches (25 cm) of snow

29 May 2000, Death Valley, California: A new national maximum temperature record for May is set when the high temperature in Death Valley soars to 122 °F (50 °C).

30 May 1879, Irving, Kansas: Severe weather rolls across Kansas and western Missouri. Two tornadoes devastate the town of Irving, virtually wiping the small Kansas community off the map. Thirty die. The second tornado, perhaps two miles wide, exhibits multiple vortices.

30 May 2007, Seattle, Washington: Afternoon temperature peaks at 87°F (30.6 °C) at Seattle's Sea-Tac Airport, tying the record high set in 1956.

31 May 1889, Johnstown, Pennsylvania: Great flash flood kills over 2200 residents as dam bursts.

31 May 1998, Southeast Michigan: During the early morning hours, a derecho strikes southeast Michigan across the Saginaw Valley, Thumb and Flint areas. Its 70 mph (112 km/h) winds result in two deaths, two injuries and widespread damage. The storm had formed over Wisconsin late the previous night where damage totalled about \$60 million to property and \$1.82 million to crops.