



Along the Trail

► by **Dan Green**, “Along the Angus Trail” author

The inconvenience of truth

Your author ripped open the curtains of his bedroom on Jan. 28, only to discover an inconvenient truth: The sun had come up, and all the earth looked just like it had when he went to bed on Jan. 27.

Climate

Yep, Jan. 27, 2016, marked the 10th anniversary of former Vice President Al Gore’s standing on the stage of the

Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, to push his movie *An Inconvenient Truth* and solemnly proclaiming that the earth had 10 years left before a global warming

catastrophe would swallow us all up.

As we deniers and skeptics read the science, the big warming events of the last 10 years have been *El Niño*-related, a natural event, and even they haven’t reached catastrophic levels of global temperature.

Al Gore’s posited, “Within the next 10 years, the world will reach a point of no return,” and “a true planetary emergency” proved to be nothing more than PR poppycock to push his movie, and didn’t

happen by the 10-year countdown of Jan. 27, 2016.

In fact, I was out scooping a relatively minor amount of global warming off my driveway recently and, because it has warmed so much in our climate, noticed that the surface underneath had stayed iced-up for a week, despite the sun glaring down on it each day.

The thought also crossed my mind, as I'm sure it has ranchers across country, why does the only really severe snow only fall in New York; Washington, D.C.; and all places in between? Is it because all the major newspapers, radio and television networks and other mass media outlets are headquartered and broadcast from there, so it's easier to take desperate pictures that look dramatic on the evening news?

Somehow, in the last 10 years the oceans haven't risen enough from the melting

glaciers and polar icecaps to inundate those East Coast cities. In fact, their harbors remain open and navigable, but I haven't seen anything about that on the news, or a breathless "special" asking what happened to the global-warming disaster.

Speaking of the 2 feet of global warming that shut down the East Coast for three days recently, it is a lot of snow, as anyone knows who has had to get the tractor and snowblade out at daybreak, dragging the loaded hay sled behind it, to cut a path to the pastures, so hay and cake can be put down for the cows. While they eat, you can bust up the ice on the stock tanks. On the way back, you try and clear enough of the area roadways that your wife and the neighbors can get to their jobs in town, so you can stay home and have all the fun.

I've never seen that covered on the evening news either — this year, or any other year.

When the thousands of cows were lost a couple years ago in the unexpected fall snows in the Dakotas, the mass media took little notice.

In fact, in my brief 68 years in rural America, the weather today looks remarkably normal, kind of like it always has. The 10-year global warming disaster that was supposed to have swallowed us up by now — well, we're shoveling it off our driveways and cutting paths through it, just like we were 50 years ago.

I was more reminded of the truth of the old song: "The more things change, the more they remain the same."



Editor's Note: *Commentary provided by Dan Green, author and historian. Opinions and thoughts are his own. You can hear more from Dan Green at 10 a.m. CST each Saturday on Angus Talk, the American Angus Association's weekly radio program on Sirius XM's Rural Radio, Channel 147.*