

Linda Lange, President and Secretary

Linda Lange is a co-founder of the Michigan Dog Drivers Association, Secretary since 2004, and President/Secretary as of September, 2010. She has been involved in sled dog sports since 1991. She started out skijoring with the house mutt, looking for something fun to get them both out of the house in the winter months. She found what she was looking for and more! She runs 5 - 8 dogs in the MiDD events. She has also finished in the 6 dog sport classes at the Mackinaw Wilderness Run, the St. Ignace Enduro, the Pellston Icebox, the Gould City MUSH Mid Distance course and the Tahquamenon Country Sled Dog Race several years in a row. She and her husband, Rick, host the Sweetwater Challenge MiDD events and maintain the trail system used for those events. They also host Jamie Nelson/Ann Stead Mushing Boot Camp in the fall. They hosted the MUSH Wooden Nickel Memorial Race, and Fall Membership Meeting and Rig Session for over a dozen years, from their commercial property in Baldwin. They offered a mid-distance class at those races along with the sprint classes for which MUSH is best known. They also hosted the MiDD Wooden Nickel 30 event from that same location for several years. Linda has worked with the USDA-Forest Service in the area to obtain Special Use Permits and to obtain a grant from the DNR to repair a main section of trail for the Sweetwater Challenge events. She handled for Joe Gutowski at the 2009 and 2010 UP 200 races. She learned a lot about the abilities of these amazing animals we call sled dogs while helping Joe achieve his goal of finishing the UP 200 as a qualifier for the Iditarod. She hopes to be running sled dogs long into the future. She cannot imagine life without the dogs, the snow, the wilderness and the ability to get out into it with them.