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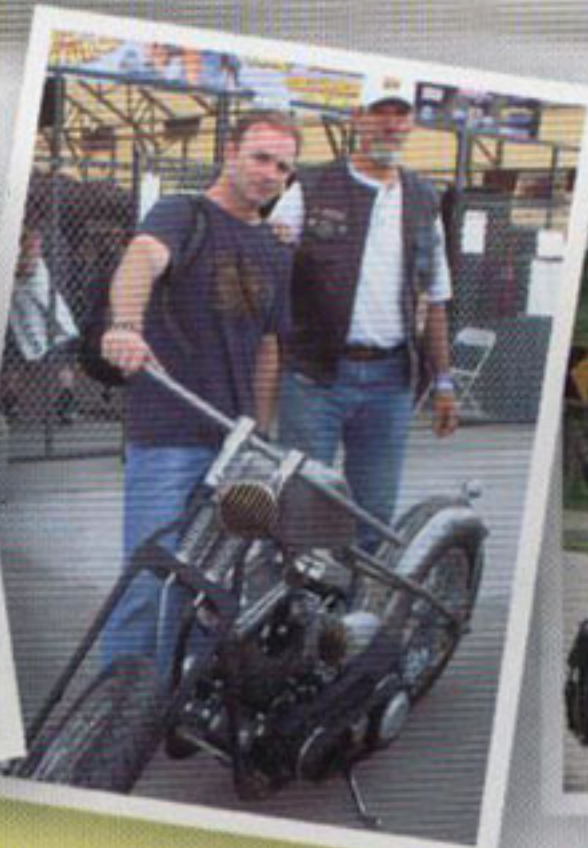
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Stone Lake Leathers

Here's the deal: You wear a jacket with a 37-inch sleeve length and your riding bib's inseam stops at 26 inches. Talk about a mismatch of body parts that will give any seamstress nightmares...

But making leather garments with measurements like these is not a challenge for the folks at Stone Lake Leatherworks. They do it all, turning out quality stitched-to-fit riding leather that uses brass hardware and No. 10 YKK zippers. This is gear that I call "wear like iron" riding apparel, and it's all made in the U.S.A.—Stone Lake, Wisconsin, to be exact.

Stone Lake Leatherworks is owned by Dan and Diana Rogers. They don't remain hidden in their remote part of the world, either (Stone Lake is just east of Spooner, which lies due south of Superior; so

now you know). They hawk their goods at various motorcycle swap meets and shows, too.

The Rogers' business actually took off when Dan began making



Steel die patterns are used to cut out the leather components.

leather riding gear for himself. He started with a leather gas tank cover for his motorcycle, and that was followed by some personal bike luggage, until eventually he began fabricating his own riding apparel. As often happens, friends asked him to make gear for them, and before long he needed an accountant to handle the books and a sign to hold the business name.

Through the years Dan has evolved the designs of his jackets and bibs. He also makes his own templates out of steel.

Perhaps SLL's biggest claim to fame is that they can alter their standard patterns (sold off the rack) to fit most individuals. That's where measurements like that 37-inch sleeve and 26-inch inseam come into play. In terms of color, you have your choice of brown or black, or a



Dan Rogers fits Tom Anderson for a jacket that'll be custom-fit just for him.



All of Stone Lake's brass hardware is die-cut and finished in house.



Dan made the seat and left side bag for his rigid backroads bobber.



Stitching is guaranteed for five years. This customer requested yellow stitching.

mix of both for most garments.

Being in upstate Wisconsin where temperatures get really cold, Dan and Diana know how to make their garments suitable for cold-weather riding, adding insulation to their bibs and jackets to protect the wearer in below-freezing temperatures. All garments come with a five-year warranty that covers the leather and stitching. Give them two to 10 days in the saddle for proper break in.

Need a riding jacket or bibs, but you can't find anything suitable off the rack because your body's dimensions are out of step with the rest of us? Then maybe it's time to venture north—but don't expect to find odd-shaped cows there. It's just that Stone Lake Leatherworks knows how to cut the hide to fit the man or woman whose body happens to march to a different drummer. —Eddie "Spare Tire" Larson

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