



Above: Removal is accomplished in about 30 seconds. The luggage is attached by straps at each corner. **Above right:** The frame is made rigid with 90 degree bends on the edges. **Right:** The back of the bike packed and ready to go.

and a new packing system is born!

layout of the available space, a cardboard template was designed to represent the equivalent of a horizontal backpack frame. The back extension is now 8" x 24" instead of 4" x 6". The top of the Jesse Bags are almost level with the existing rack so the new frame is flat. The frame shape over the panniers is designed to accommodate custom sleeping bag luggage from a previous system.

It is nice to know talented people who make things. The



Dave and Cindy Grider have put on a lot of miles together.

cardboard template was traced on to 10 mil aluminum plate and fabricated by Frank Mayorga of Mayorga Steel, a fellow Flagstaff BMW and KTM rider. Alida Dierker, owner of "Sew There", did an excellent job of creating the 8" x 24" x 16" back bag. The aluminum rack is mounted to the stock back rack with a modified 3 1/2" door hinge. The hinge allows the entire setup to be taken off the bike by pulling a single pin and also allows easy access to the panniers below. Including \$40 worth of powdercoat, the entire cost of the project is less than \$325.

As shown in the pictures, the system allows for a nice assortment of amenities. Total weight of the rack and gear is less than 38 pounds. The effect on bike handling is minimal and the sleeping bag luggage creates an easy chair like cradle that Cindy appreciates. The bike goes from RV mode to naked play mode in about two minutes. My only question at this point is, "Will the system fit a new 1200 next year?"

Dave Grider is an Associate Professor of Construction Management in the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences at Northern Arizona University. He has 45 years experience of peering over the handlebars of various 2-wheeled motorized vehicles.

Cindy Grider is the expert photographer, navigator, and all around good riding companion. She works as business manager for the police department on the university campus. Her connection to law enforcement and the acquaintances of that fraternity has spared the pilot a ticket on more than one occasion.

Dave and Cindy are actively involved in motorcycle travel, performance Quarter Horse activities, and enjoying the natural beauty of the American West. They have called Flagstaff home for the past 34 years.