



# Designer Newsletter Spring 2013

## The Latest Addition to our American Prairie Collection

Late last summer Drawknife Billiards introduced a new product group, The American Prairie Collection.

The newest additions to the group are a billiard table and 8-place cue stand. Built from Knotty Alder, this 8' billiard table incorporates a currently popular trim detail in home furnishings, with large, metal clavos, (decorative nailheads), placed along the table apron.

The American Prairie Collection is designed to offer our clients another choice in custom, rustic, game room furniture. This new collection incorporates clean, simple lines, with a naturally distressed look.

The pieces start with the Basic Style, products that allow the beauty of the unusual knots and grain patterns of the wood to dominate. By making custom additions to the basic pieces, clients can create an item to their specifications.

The original item in this group was a 12' shuffleboard table (see our website Styles section for more information - [www.Drawknife.com](http://www.Drawknife.com)). The shuffleboard game table included decorative trim panels on the corners and sides of the body.



8' Billiard Table

Drawknife Billiards  
American Prairie Collection



Original Basic Billiard Table Concept

## From Concept to Reality

The American Prairie Collection began as an idea several months ago. The Drawknife staff had been thinking about a new line that would offer dealers and interior designers a new rustic look in game room furniture.

We had already planned to build the new line using Knotty Alder, a popular wood used for doors and cabinets. We thought its variety of knots and grain patterns make it a good choice for game furniture, as well.

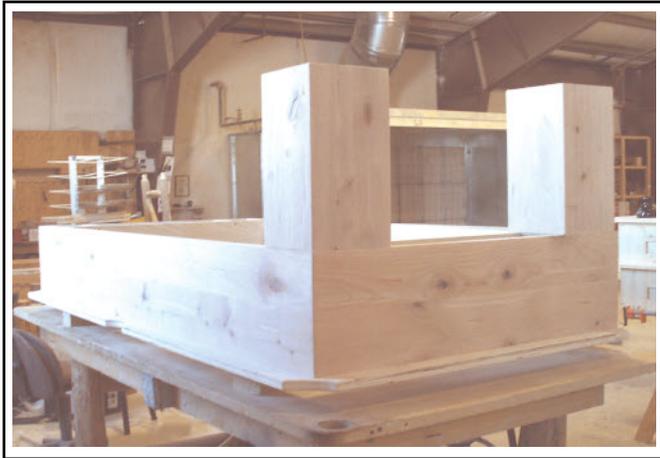
This product group was conceived to provide a simple, basic design that could be customized by clients in a variety of ways with the addition of trim panels on the body and legs of the game tables.

The billiard table, shown at left, was first ordered with panel trim on the corners of the body, similar to the shuffleboard table we built for another client.

However, in discussions with the client, I mentioned a current trend I had seen in a recent on-line, wood-working newsletter that used nailhead or clavos, detail trim on furniture items. The client liked the idea and we began to explore ways to incorporate it into her billiard table. The result is the table shown at left, with 1 1/2" clavos evenly spaced along the apron of the table.

## Building the Billiard Table

As with all of our billiard tables, this table was built according to the specifications set up by The Billiard Congress of America (BCA). Here are a few pictures of this table being constructed. (NOTE: the table is shown upside-down while leg units are being fitted into the body.)



## Cue Stand and Accessories

To complete the project for this order, we built a cue stand and a special ball triangle and bridgestick.

The client chose to have the cue stand built in the basic style, without any additional trim. The cue stand holds 8 cues as with our other cue stands.



The next picture shows the rail and apron assembly. The clavos had to be positioned on the apron prior to staining to allow for them to be attached with the proper spacing once the apron was stained.



The ball triangle was constructed from the same wood as the table, but the bridgestick was designed to complement the iron clavos detail on the table's apron.

We contacted a local company that specializes in iron work, and, with his assistance, came up with a twisted iron shaft that he adjusted to fit the bridge head and a handle. Then the handle was stained in our shop.

Once the parts of the table are constructed, they are sent to be stained. The stain selected for this table was Provincial, which is one of our darker stains. The finished rail and apron assembly is shown below.



## Finished Pieces Installed in Their New Home

The final step was the installation of this new group into the client's home, which incorporates a rustic, western theme, carried throughout the home by use of artwork and other decorative items.

We hope that this new line will encourage interior designers and their clients to explore other trim and detail options to give their game rooms a unique look.

Here are some additional pictures of the American Prairie Collection's first billiard table and its companion items.



## Looking Ahead

As the American Prairie Collection grows, we will continue to add new items to the group. One of the more popular requests recently, has been for a rustic bar and barstools.

We are considering a bar similar to the one in our Yellowstone Collection in size, but with the design elements of the new group. Here is a possible design for a rustic bar with rectangular inset panels on the front and sides.

We welcome your suggestions regarding this and any other ideas you may have for this new group.



The American Prairie Collection will allow clients to include rustic game room furniture in their ranch houses, lake cottages, summer retreats and other residences.

Drawknife will continue to provide more information and pictures of our new product group as it develops. Price Lists for the American Prairie Collection will be released soon.

In the meantime, we welcome your thoughts and comments.

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