



BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

# CORNER POCKET



**THE PLACE:** For people of a certain vintage, Double D Co. Billiard Equipment & Supplies harkens back to a time that conjures up mythic images of heroes like Minnesota Fats and Willie Mosconi leaning over the green felt, their eyes focused on the ball, their mind racing with calculated angles. Pool, (billiards, snooker, if you like) is the sport and William O'Brecht, also known as Duffy, the owner of Double D Co., has everything you need to tap into your inner player. You know the one: the guy or gal who wants to clear the table to the astonishment of friends and family.

**THE STYLE:** When asked how he got into the business 38 years ago, O'Brecht says, "It's just a necessity, I guess. I'm just an old pool table fellow." It's that kind of pool expertise, marinated over time in a love of the game, that prompted O'Brecht to provide a one-stop centre for billiard aficionados. Due to customer demand, Double D Co. offers the sale of slate pool tables as well as moving, recovering, repairs, installation and special orders. And the cherry on top is O'Brecht. An expert player, he gives one-on-one lessons to those picking up the game for the first time. *Continued on page 30*

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**WHAT'S HOT:** One of the surprising customer favourites is O'Brecht's array of pool table light fixtures that people often use for other purposes, such as unique lighting for kitchens or bars. Customers appreciate the hands-on quality that the nine display tables in the showroom allow and the fact that O'Brecht is the exclusive area retailer for Canada Billiard & Bowling products.

**SEASONAL:** It's all about those rainy days and nights for this business. "When people are stuck indoors, that's when they love to play pool," O'Brecht says. Spring, fall and winter all get people thinking about indoor entertainment.

**FAVOURITES:** Along with top-selling pool cue brands like Meucci, McDermott, Joss, Cuetec and Dufferin, Double D sells cues of varying lengths, two-piece cues, cue holders and cue cases. In fact, O'Brecht can outfit your entire games room with poker tables, shuffleboards, crokinole and checkerboards, chairs, dartboards and scoreboards.

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