

# Merry Christmas!



## McGraphics TIPS OF THE TRADE

McClung Companies An Employee-Owned Company

Winter 2014

### A year's worth of excitement

Exciting times at home and at work! I've been reminded after a few years respite that life with a two-year-old is never dull!

Here is a quick update from the home-front. For me, 2014 was marked by lots of sports! I coached my oldest daughter Bethany in both basketball, and softball, my youngest daughter Anna was a cheerleader, and little Johnny has decided that any ball he finds (whether inside or outside) was meant to be thrown.

Bethany has (at the age of 10) become a die-hard UVA fan and so we spent many hours watching basketball and baseball as both UVA teams enjoyed extended seasons in 2014. A young family certainly doesn't give you time to slow down!

But then again, neither does work! 2014 at McClung was also marked with lots of excitement. We started out the year by adding new technology (a brand new Management Information System), as well as a new UV coater, and we're ending the year with other new equipment and technology additions, one being our new press (you can read a



*Bethany 10, Anna 8, Johnny 2.*

little about it in this newsletter). Besides that, Immerge Technologies, our website design and development company, has experienced significant growth, and 2014 also marks the first full year that we are a 100% fully employee-owned company.

As 2014 draws to a close I'm so grateful for my loving (and understanding) wife and children, but also to be part of such a great family here at McClung Companies. It's my sincere wish that each of you enjoys a truly Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Larry Miles and Family

## Two awesome new Illustrator tools

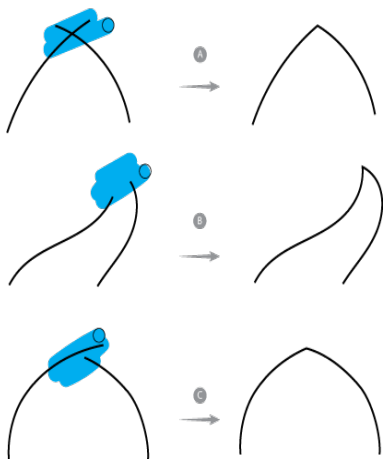
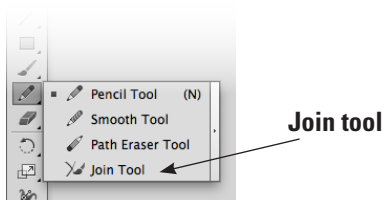
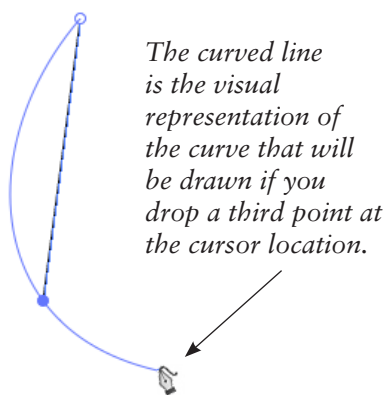
With the latest update to Illustrator, Adobe has once again given some great new features to its venerable drawing application.

Two especially cool features in the CC 2014 version are the **Curvature** tool and the **Join** tool.

### Curvature tool

With the Curvature tool you can quickly create paths with visual foresight. Select the Curvature tool (Shift + ~), start with two basic points, and then see a preview of how the curve will look if you were to drop another point at the current location of the cursor.

If you don't want a curve, press Opt/Alt when you drop a point to create a straight line from the previous point. If you have already created a smooth curve, double-click a point to toggle between a smooth curve and straight line.



### Join tool

The Join tool is used to easily fix paths that do not exactly intersect the way you want them to. You'll find the tool as one of the options in the Pencil tool. The point created using this tool is always a corner point.

- A. Trim overlapping parts of paths.
- B. Extend and join paths.
- C. Trim one path, extend the other path.

Note: If the gap between the paths you want to join is too big, the tool won't work.

—Paul Groff

## LARRY'S WORD



My favorite time of the year

by Larry Miles,  
President and  
CEO

November and December are two of my favorite months of the year. The holidays, the food, and the overall festive nature of things keep me in good spirits all the way through the end of December.

Since my next favorite time of year is the beginning of the year, I don't even experience a let down when the holidays are over. But that's getting ahead of things. I've always found that December, in particular, is a great time to reflect on the year past, and to get ready for the year to come. This year I'm reflecting on the multitude of new customers we've welcomed to the "McClung Family" (and of course on you, our regular loyal customers), and I'm thinking about the year ahead.

What does 2015 hold for the printing and graphics arts industry? Only time will tell, but I hope each one of you will rest in the knowledge that whatever it brings, we at McClung Companies are committed to being here to serve you with the latest technology, fairest prices, and best customer service you'll be able to find.

I sincerely wish each of you a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and I look forward to continuing the journey with you into 2015 and beyond!



**Install in progress!**  
McClung is adding a new press to its offset line-up: a four-unit roll-fed device for doing commodity work.

## Groff awarded employee of the quarter

Paul Groff, graphic designer, was recently chosen Employee of the Quarter.

"Being a past recipient of the employee of the quarter, Paul continuously seeks means to improve upon his knowledge base and is always willing to share with his fellow employees," commented Sheila Southall, Pre-Press & Print Innovation Coordinator. "He has many



Paul Groff

responsibilities that include design, variable data, IT and is the lead for McClung on maintaining FSC® certification annually."

Groff has worked ten years at McClung and lives with his family in Harrisonburg.

Did you know Paul is a big Star Trek fan?



## McQUIZ

From which country did the poinsettia plant originate?

E-mail answers to [mcmarket@mcclungco.com](mailto:mcmarket@mcclungco.com) by January 16. Be sure to include your name and phone number. One name will be chosen from all entries and will receive a cool gift certificate!

**Congratulations to Mary Woodson of Washington and Lee University for winning last issue's McQuiz!** The oldest football team in the AFC is the Pittsburgh Steelers.



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