

PELTONIA



On August 29 and 30, 2009, 31 members of the Porter Wright family followed Lance Armstrong in Central Ohio's inaugural Pelotonia – a long-distance cycling event to benefit The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. With the financial and moral support of family and friends, Porter Wright's cyclists traveled 50, 100 or 180 miles between Columbus and Athens and, at last count, raised more than \$59,000 that, because of the generosity of Firm client NetJets, will go directly to The James to support its cutting-edge cancer research.

When asked by NetJets in June to help support Pelotonia, we enthusiastically agreed. Cycling was already an avid hobby for many Firm personnel and, of course, every one of us has been touched by cancer in one way or another. As a Firm, we committed to raising money for Pelotonia and fielding a team of riders. What we could not have imagined at the time was what a rewarding and enriching experience participating in Pelotonia would be.

Through our preparation, we got to know one another and ourselves just a bit better. We shared stories, training strategies, and long stretches of Ohio's countryside. We saw how Pelotonia offered everyone a chance to participate regardless of athletic ability. We learned that big results – whether in fundraising or training – can come from lots of small steps. And we began to understand just how pervasive cancer's impact on our lives really is – the fear of a diagnosis, the loss of a treasured colleague, a family member's victory, a client's valiant struggle.

The event itself was amazing. With more than 2265 cyclists overall, we set out on a crisp, late-summer morning part of a community dedicated to chasing down cancer. As the miles flew by, we realized just how large this community is. From well-wishers cheering us along the route to thank-you signs from cancer survivors, Pelotonia's many constituencies came together to make the event a huge success.

Even as we wind up our fundraising for Pelotonia 2009, we're gearing up for next year's event. We hope to have even broader participation throughout the firm and are committed to doing our part to support the important work of The James.

If you'd like to check out our riders and their individual reasons for being part of Pelotonia, visit www.pelotonia.org, click on "RIDERS" and type in Porter Wright in the rider search line. In addition, if you were one of the many who made our ride a success, we offer you our sincerest thanks and appreciation.

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