



Peterson & Smith Equine Hospital

Ambulatory Internship

Ashley Nicole Earl



Heard Of... ?

What Have you Heard... ?

Want to Apply... ?





About Peterson & Smith

- Full Service, 24/7 Equine Practice located in Ocala, FL
- Established in 1981 by Drs. John Peterson & Johnny Mac Smith
- Has grown to be the 3rd Largest Practice in North America
- Offers branches of Surgery, Sports Medicine, Reproduction & Ambulatory Veterinary Medicine
- Currently employs 18 Vets & 2 Interning Vets
- Offers Externship & Internship Programs in the Spring
- ...they're ALWAYS Open, trust me.





Everything You Want & Don't Want to Know...

- **Initial Expectations of my Internship**

Wow, I'm going to be interning at the 3rd largest Equine Practice in North America—awesome!

- **What My Internship Actually Was**

I'm not giving it away!

- **A Day in the Life of Ashley...**

Take a tour of what it's like to be an Ambulatory driver at P&S

- **Hours, Pay, etc.**

Long hours, Little Pay

- **I Learned So Much!**

What it means to be an Equine Vet, Career Choice, Hands On Learning, "The Biz"

Initial Expectations of My Internship

So Excited!



Going to Learn
Tools of the
Trade!



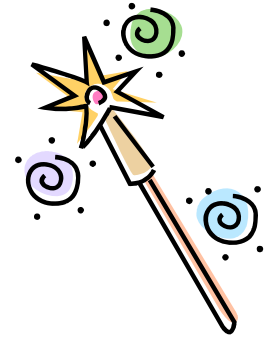
Working With Horses
Wouldn't you be Excited?
Everyday!



What My Internship Actually Was

• “Student Worker”

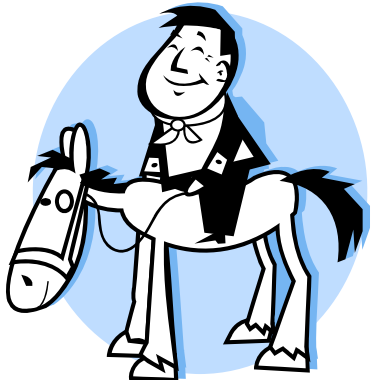
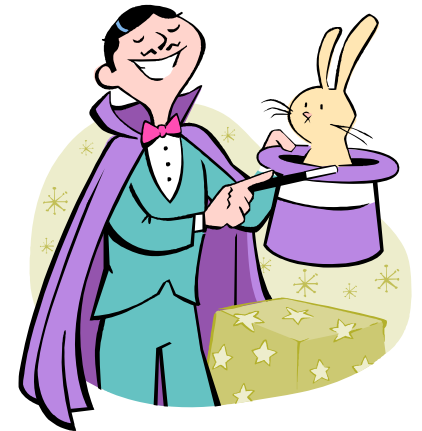
- Another Number
- HARD Work
- Biggest Responsibility – the Truck
- Same vet, all the time
- Not *technically* an Intern



• Ambulatory

- I worked when the vet worked
- Assisted the vet at all times
- Stocked the truck
- Restrained the horses
- Drove the truck

– while eating, talking, assisting with papers, directing phone calls & going *really* fast, all at the same time!



When Things Go Wrong...



While driving the truck ...

WOOPS!





A Day in the Life of Ashley...



Wake up at 4:00 am



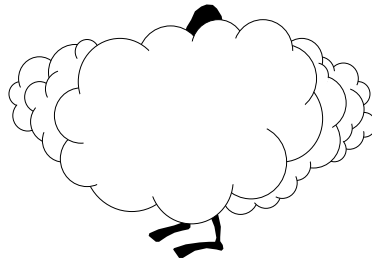
**Drive down to
SR-200 in Ocala**





The Day Begins...

Off to our first Call of the day



Tend to Horses...usually foals 😊



EMERGENCY CALL!



Emergency Call...

**Tend to the Emergency
& Make sure all is Well**



**Palpate about 20-30
mares on the Road**



**EMERGENCY
CALL!**



Emergency Call...Again

**Tend to this Emergency
& Make sure all is Well**



Do Partner Work

**Eat While Driving to
Next Call**

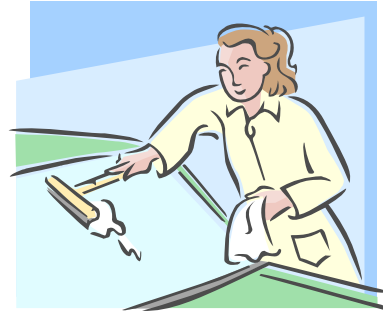




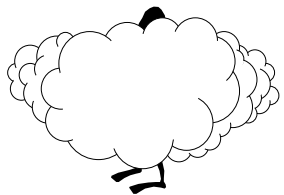
It's Now Late Afternoon...



**Back to the Clinic to
Stock & Wash the Truck**

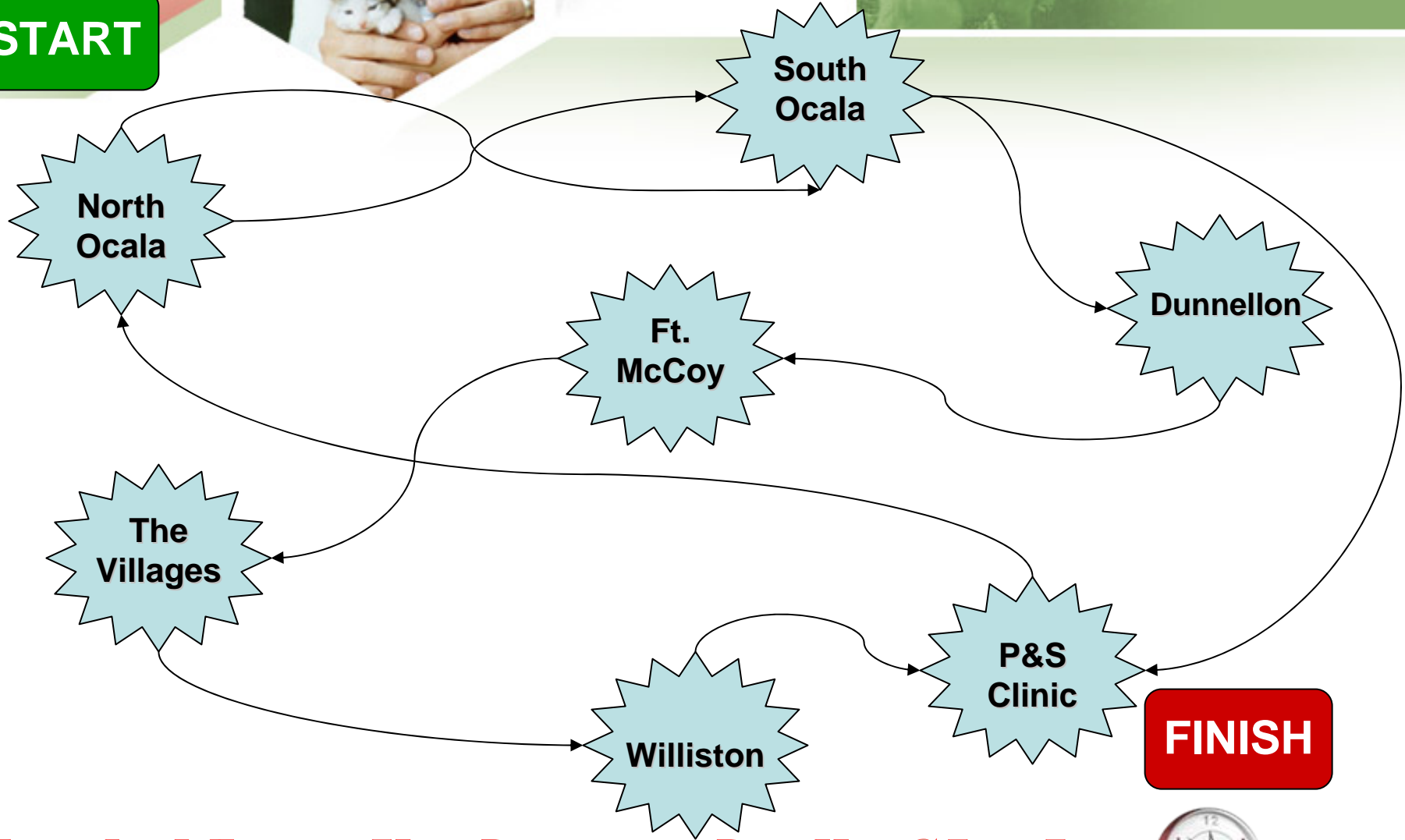


**..and we're off to Finish our
Appointments that were
Delayed from the Previous
Emergencies**





START



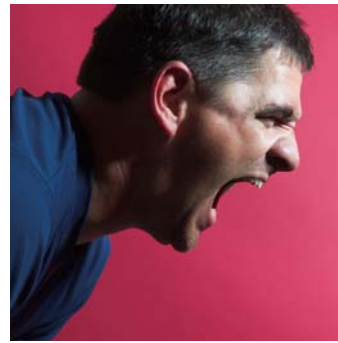
FINISH

Here's Where the Driving Really Starts...

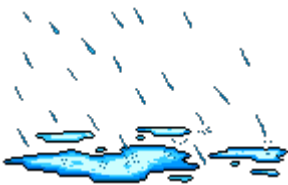


11:30 PM

Our Clients



The Weather







Hours, Pay, etc.



- I Interned during Breeding Season
- Worked approximately 15 to sometimes 20 hours a day
- No breaks, privileged bathroom breaks
- No phone, no personal time
- Start as early as 4:00 & end as late as Midnight

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- I was paid \$41.66/day
 - Averaging 80 hrs/week, I made \$3.13/hr
 - Sick days -- I really did get sick
 - Monday was my day off
 - Worked 14 hrs Easter Sunday





i Learned so Much!

- As an equine vet, as long as you are **breathing**, you are **on call**
- I learned **intensive procedures**, how to **prescribe** the right meds, how to deal with **emergencies**
- The equine vet industry in Ocala, “The Biz,” is a **dog eat dog world**; the word “**unethical**” does not exist
- I ultimately realized that this **isn’t what I wanted to do for the rest of my life**





Overall,

**I strongly recommend that anyone interested in becoming an equine vet intern at a large equine hospital...
...during breeding season.**



Questions?