An interview with ANSC Major Joanna Fisher
regarding her “Camp Care Therapeutic Riding Center” and
“Stone Rose Farm” Internships
(Connecticut & Massachusetts, Summer 2011 & Summer 2012)

I. Camp Care Therapeutic Riding Center Internship Interview

Q: Where did you intern, and when?

Camp Care Therapeutic Riding Center in the summer of 2011.

Q: Was it a paid internship? What did you do there?

This is not paid, but I did receive two credits for it. I mostly would help out with the lessons, either as a horse leader or a “side walker”. I worked very closely with the main instructor, who was also a physical therapist and gained a lot of knowledge about working with disabled children. When I was not helping with the lessons, I was doing barn chores and helping take care of the horses.

Q: When did you apply for this internship?

Spring semester, 2011

Q: How long did the internship last?

It lasted for eight weeks, but I still volunteer there when they need me.

Q: How did you learn about this opportunity?

I needed an internship at a Therapeutic Center as part of my Therapeutic Riding minor and my advisor (Dr. Nadeau) told me about Camp Care.

Q: Anything else you’d like to add about your experience?

It was an amazing experience and I got to work with very dedicated, wonderful people. It is a great cause and very rewarding.
II. Stone Rose Farm Internship Interview

Q: Where did you intern, and when?
Stone Rose Farm (Sturbridge, MA), Summer of 2011 and 2012

Q: Was it a paid internship? What did you do there?
This was not a paid internship. I did normal barn chores (mucking, feeding, turning out, etc.) and was able to ride a mare that is trained up to Grand Prix dressage in return for the work. I was also set up with multiple well-known Dressage trainers/instructors through the owner of Stone Rose Farm, Beth. The Farm is also a breeding farm, so we went to numerous Breed Shows with the younger horses. I also backed one of the three year olds last year and worked with the colt that was born this summer.

Q: When did you apply for this internship?
Spring of 2011

Q: How long did the internship last?
It is technically just a summer internship (beginning of May to the end of August) but since I enjoyed it so much I continued to help out and ride the mare until their outdoor ring froze in November 2011. Then I started again in May of 2012.

Q: How did you learn about this opportunity?
Beth sent an email to the UCONN Animal Science Department looking for students interested in applying.

Q: Anything else you’d like to add about your experience?
It was very eye opening and an amazing opportunity for anyone who is interested in riding, training and breeding. I rode the Dressage mare, but they also have an amazing hunter/jumper mare for riders who are interested in jumping.

III. Wrap-Up

Q: What is your area of interest as an ANSC major?
Dressage and Therapeutic Riding

Q: So, what are your plans when you graduate?
I am planning on going to Physical Therapy school and then on to working as a Therapeutic Riding instructor and a physical therapist. I also hope to ride Dressage competitively for fun!

Q: If someone has questions, can they contact you regarding your internship experience?
Yes, they can email me at Joanna.Fisher@uconn.edu