

The local Camp for the Visually Impaired was started by the Lions Club of Casper in 1926. At that time the day camp located on the Kimball Ranch on Elk Horn Creek was a milk camp and summer program for undernourished children. Thirty to forty children attended each day to enjoy a good meal that included milk and outdoor games. Most children who attended gained weight and were in better health after a summer spent at the camp. In 1928, Lion Ed Murane arranged for a lease on a more accessible site, 14 acres of property located 11 miles outside the city limits on Casper Mountain. The new site became the camp's permanent home in 1935 when the Lions Club of Casper renewed their lease with the City of Casper for approximately 16 acres for a period of 99 years. Local Lions and community volunteers bulldozed a road, and built dormitories, a cook shack, nurses quarters, a 500-gallon water tank and other buildings. From 1933 to 1935, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Progress Administration (WPA), depression-era federal programs built a few buildings that are still in use and made improvements to the site. The camp continued to be used for underprivileged children until it closed during WWII.

The camp reopened in 1946 as a camp for the blind under an agreement with the Wyoming State Department of Education. The first blind camp was held in 1946. In 1966, the Casper Lions renamed the camp after Allen H. Stewart, a Lions Club Past President, District Governor, and International Counselor who died in a snow storm in the Big Horn Mountains. The Camp became a Wyoming Lions Club project in 1979. The usage of the Camp expanded from a three-week summer camp for the visually impaired to include camp rentals to community groups. The Camp now consists of 14 buildings, including a furnished dining room with fireplace, a commercial kitchen, separate men's and women's dormitories with showers, and a 5,000 square foot multipurpose building. An open air covered picnic area within the commons is complete with tables, benches and a grill. The Allen H. Stewart Lions Camp, when not in use for the school, is open for group rentals from June 15 until October 1 each year.

The Department of Education discontinued funding the summer school for the blind in 2007. Since that time, the Lions Club of Casper, Lions Clubs from around the State, and the Lions of Wyoming Foundation have funded the free summer program for children who are visually impaired. Financial support is from club donations, grants, memorials, rentals, and personal support. The Wall of Honor, wall of bricks and stones located in front of the dining hall is a permanent display of the names of contributors who made tax deductible donations from \$100 to \$1,000 to the nonprofit Camp. The donation from Neiberger's estate is the largest ever given to the Allen H. Stewart Lions Camp.

The financial boost from Neiberger to the local organization will provide enough funding to complete the renovation of the couples/nurses quarters building at the Camp. Completion of the project will make it possible for the Lions to again offer a camp for adults who are visually impaired. The remainder of the money will be used to finish rewiring the camp, complete other camp upgrades and give a boost to the Camp's reserve fund.

In the spring of 2012, the Casper Lions turned the camp ownership over to the Lions of Wyoming Foundation. The Department of Education through the Montgomery Trust provided a grant that paid for most of the cost of the Summer School in 2012, thanks to the help Superintendent of Public Instruction Cindy Hill, funding through a grant from the Montgomery Trust has been approved for the subsequent Summer Schools as well.