



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM JULY, 2024-2025

Hi, I'm Karen Boden and I'm your Youth Activities chairman again this year. A little about myself. I'm a retired cosmetologist and farm wife. My husband, Leon, found me in ND when he was stationed at Minot Air force Base. He brought me back to his home state of Kansas after his term in the Air Force. We raised four children and over the years hosted 7 students from Russia, 1 from Holland, 1 from Italy, and 1 from Germany. I was also a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer for 18 years. As you can see, I have always had a great love for our youth.

A little about the coming year's programs. Sadly, we will no longer be doing the Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue contest. We will still be having the Illustrating America contest and will also continue to give out R.A.P. Cards. We will be working with Youth and Youth Groups to educate them about America, patriotism, our veterans, and volunteering.

We will continue Patriotism through Literacy. This program is very special to me, as I have experienced many children that had never read a book or been read to. I will again challenge each auxiliary to donate at least 1 book to a school or local library.

With that, there is a new program coming called "Youth Reading to our Veterans & Veterans Reading to Youth." It will be easy to combine these two programs. More on this later.

Karen Boden

785-545-6426