



# Aurora American Legion Band

## 2017 Conductor Letter

***Dear Aurora American Legion Band,***

*I am honored and thrilled to return as Conductor of Aurora American Legion Band and am very much looking forward to this coming summer as we continue a great tradition of excellence.*

*I feel we had a great first year together in 2016 and it is hoped we can build upon the many positives and take our ensemble to the next level. We will have an entirely new slate of concert music to accompany all of our traditional selections. Our programs will include both music of a more serious nature as well as lighter fare for the sake of entertaining our concertgoers. Before we play our first note in 2017, I wish to offer some requests as we move forward.*

*I will continue to do my very best to promote and preserve a rehearsal atmosphere that is productive and efficient but also fun and friendly. However, I need your assistance in making that happen. I also ask that we are proactive in our commitment to being the best ensemble possible. This means being ready to start rehearsals at the designated time and coming prepared to make music as an ensemble – not to learn our parts. As I write this, we are scheduled to perform in three parades this summer. The invitation to march in the Warrenville parade on July 3 was a direct result of our performance at St. Paul's Church last summer.*

*The growth of our band, both in size and quality, is exciting. With that in mind, on behalf of both myself and the AALB Executive Board, we wish to revert to previous policy regarding participation in parades. As a member of our band, please know that parade marching is important and should be treated as any other performance of our ensemble. We strongly desire to have every member who is physically able participate in parades to properly represent the band. If we have 80 members in the band, we cannot appear at a parade (or any performance) with only 30 members. We will have marching rehearsals on both May 25 and June 22 in preparation for our parade commitments on May 29, July 3, and July 4. We understand that some members, especially high school students, may have previous performance commitments on Memorial Day weekend.*

*I am very much looking forward to seeing all of you, making new friends, and welcoming new members to our AALB family. Here's to a great summer ahead!*

*Sincerely,*

*Dr. Rod Schueller  
Conductor – Aurora American Legion Band  
Director of Bands – West Aurora High School*