

# Civil War's start to be noted June 8 to 10

The Onondaga Historical Association and Onondaga County Civil War Round Table will jointly sponsor the 150th sesquicentennial anniversary commemorating the start of the Civil War June 8 to 10 at the OHA's Gambrinus Room, 321 Montgomery St., Syracuse.

The activities will include a speakers program with several historians and authors, as well as a special Civil War exhibit that will include a one-time only showing of Syracuse's own Butler Zouaves uniforms, the colorful combat/ceremonial French military garb popular at the time.

Program events revolve around the early war years and recruitment of soldiers in Central New York including local Zouave military units who fought in the Battle of Big Bethel in Virginia, June 10, 1861.

The program will also cover the 11th New York fire soldiers who fought in the first Battle of Manassas on July 21, 1861. It also is known as the battle of Bull Run.

All activities are free and open to the public. No reservations are required. Light refreshments will be available.

The schedule includes:

**June 8, 7 to 9 p.m.:** John V. Quarstein speaks on the Battle of Big Bethel, where Butler Zouaves, a local Onondaga County military unit, fought. Quarstein is an award winning historian, preservationist and author. He is historian for the city of Hampton, Va. He previously worked for 30 years as the director of the Virginia War Museum and as consultant to The Mariners' Museum's Monitor Center.

**June 9, 7 to 9 p.m.:** Patrick A. Schroeder, chief historian at Appomattox Court House National Park, will speak on "Elmer E. Ellsworth and the 11th New York Fire Zouaves at Bull Run: Heroes or Humbugs?"

**June 10:** Following a 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. wine-and-cheese reception, Thomas A. Hunter, assistant director / collections curator at the OHA Museum, will speak on John Butler's Zouaves unit, which later became Co. D, 3rd New York Infantry Regiment.

After his talk, Hunter will conduct a special tour of the OHA's Civil War exhibit, including the showing of the Butler Zouave uniforms from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [occwrt.blogspot.com](http://occwrt.blogspot.com) or [www.cnyhistory.org](http://www.cnyhistory.org).