

A Walk Back In Time

Although nowadays we would associate red and white striped stockings with Raggedy Ann dolls, these were everyday wear for Victorian women in Cheshire in 1862. Lizz Abbate, who will portray the well-to-do Miss Josephine Foote in the May 7 *Titus Moss Walk Back In Time*, brought her costume expertise to a WBIT planning meeting held March 5 at the Cheshire Historical Society. Abbate said that what a person had in terms of wealth and what their occupation was would then determine the appropriate costume for the historical personages depicted in this Civil War period event.

"The role of a farmer is very different than that of a merchant or a person of wealth, therefore the clothing is different as well." Fancy bonnets and nice parasols were common for women with means. "All women over the age of eight had floor length skirts," according to Abbate. Abbate said that farmer's wife Nancy Upson Moss, mother of the central character in the WBIT, would wear a hoop skirt as well as a simple "day out" dress.

There are still three available roles for the Titus Moss WBIT: a 16-year old girl, a young man in his twenties, and Huntley the Telegraph Operator. The event is scheduled for Sunday, May 7.

More information is available at www.cheshirehistory.org, or by calling Diane Calabro at (203) 250-9350.