

While I truly enjoy meeting my ancestors, I have learned that the greatest joy in genealogy and family history work is the live people I meet and get to know. Melanie McComb is one of those people. I met her first on Twitter, and she taught me by example how to encounter and engage in the world of Genie Twitter. I took on her ways, and now I'm more comfortable there than in any other online platform! I've also found hundreds of friends there, and I feel comfortable asking and answering questions in threads and one-on-one.

Melanie has, in one short year, gone from speaking as an independent genealogist, working on her own tree, to a full-time genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogy Society and American Ancestors. In this interview, she talks about the process of getting from point A to point B, the changes in her life as a result, and the work she does now. I hope you enjoy the interview.



Hello, and welcome to another episode of From Paper To People. I'm your hostess with the mostest, Carolynn ni Lochlainn, and I invite you to join me in genie-land for another interview in our series. But first, the news:

Supportive listener Stacy Ashmore Cole was interviewed recently on Berniece Bennett's Blog Talk Radio show about her project, documenting the names of enslaved persons in Liberty County, Georgia, and I recommend both the show and the episode. Stacy's project is definitely one that you should hear about. The URL is <https://bit.ly/2Guvj7W>.

My friend Olivia Dorsey also has a fantastic project: she realized that there was no central location for researchers to locate resources pertaining to poc or black genealogy. She decided to create a spreadsheet to aggregate them in one place. I'm going to add The Reparational Genealogy Project to it, and others have added their own projects. It's a great place to find volunteer opportunities as well as research resources. For more info, tweet her

@oliviacodes.

And...the podcast has a new supporter at Patreon! She's a Branch, and her name is Mary King. She gets a fridge magnet for her support!!!

Today's interview is with someone I met early on in the growth of this podcast. About a year ago, I noticed how generous she was on Twitter, and I tried to model my behavior on hers. She does everything right. She has since expanded from her own blog, research and speaking gigs to full-time genealogy work at the New England Historic Genealogy Society. I really wanted to hear how things have changed for her, so I realized it was time for a visit. Here now is the interview.

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If you want to know more about upcoming activities and regular services at the New England Historic Genealogy Society, you can find their fantastic website at [americanancestors.org](http://americanancestors.org) or follow them on twitter @ancestorexperts. You can also follow Melanie's personal doings on Twitter @ShamrockGen, at [theshamrockgenealogist.com](http://theshamrockgenealogist.com).

Thanks so much for listening today. Tune in next time when we'll talk about other fun things in the world of genealogy, and remember - do your research, don't be a Jeffrey, and Expect Surprises.




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