

levels? What are the evolutionary pathways that have developed as a result of all of these complex relationships? Galen will soon return to the Cerrado to find out!



I'm a fun guy!

*Ted C. MacRae*¹

The habit of looking at things microscopically as the lichens on the trees & rocks really prevents my seeing aught else in a walk.—

Henry David Thoreau



Trichaptum biforme on fallen trunk of *Betula nigra*, Reynolds Co., Missouri.

I should have loved an opportunity to go for a walk in the woods with Thoreau—especially during the winter when my preoccupation with



Trichaptum biforme on fallen branch of *Acer rubrum*, Reynolds Co., Missouri.

¹ Originally posted 5 January 2014 at *Beetles in the Bush*: <http://beetlesinthebush.wordpress.com>.



Lensites betulina on dead stump of *Betula nigra*, Reynolds Co., Missouri.

insects no longer restrains my fascination with all things natural. While many entomologists see



“Gills” distinguish this shelf fungus from turkey tails and other similar types.

winter as a break from field work—a time to indulge/suffer (depending on mood) the more mundane curatorial tasks associated with their



Cladonia sp. (poss. *chlorophaea* or *pyxidata*) on chert-trail, Reynolds Co., Missouri.

studies, my time in the field continues uninterrupted with long walks in the woods.



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A forest in miniature!



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Leucobryum glaucum on forest floor, Reynolds Co., Missouri.

Hiking stick replaces insect net. Energy foods replace vials. I still pry bark and flip rocks—I cannot completely ignore the potential to find insects. But I also peer through miniature forests of moss, poke about the mushrooms on a fallen log, and squint at the lichens encrusting a rock. Yes, insect specimens collected during the previous summer still need to be pinned, but there is time for that. There will always be time for that—if not now then in my later years when my ability to scramble through the bush begins to wane. For now, the woods sing their siren song, and I must listen.

All photos shown taken on 30 November 2013 while hiking a 7-mile stretch of the Ozark Trail (Karkaghne Section in Reynolds Co. and Middle Fork Section in Iron Co.).



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Irpex lacteus(?) on dead *Acer rubrum*, Iron Co., Missouri.



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Spores are released from the toothy cap underside.



Request for Edgar Denison Materials

Gwyn Wahlmann

LAST CHANCE!!!! DEADLINE FOR EDGAR DENISON MEMORIES: FEBRUARY 28, 2014

Did Edgar Denison inspire or enhance your love of nature? Even if you did not know Edgar personally, we are seeking testimonies of his influence. WGNSS will be presenting Kirkwood Historical Society with memorabilia for their archives as part of Kirkwood's Edgar Denison Month next April. Please send to:

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