

TURTLE TRACKS



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ARCHELON's vision is not only restricted to the protection of *Caretta caretta* as an endangered species; it includes the protection, management and conservation of habitats, sea life and coastal ecosystems in Greece, which are integral parts of our national heritage.

This can only be achieved with the active involvement of all citizens. Dissemination of information, raising of awareness and citizens' contribution can help achieve harmonic coexistence - humans and nature - and sustainable development.

ARCHELON, besides monitoring the Greek nesting beaches - having already 22 years of experience in environmental education - intends to continue its successful course and improve using creative programmes maintaining the daily contact with students at the Rescue

OUR VISION ENCODED:

We can live together



Centre in Glyfada. This will be achieved with the cooperation and support of government authorities and sponsors.

The establishment and operation of the Volunteers Information and Education Centre, with the support of the General Secretariat for Youth in 2005, strengthened ARCHELON's work and promoted voluntarism with an emphasis on the natural environment.

Probably one of the major challenges regarding environmental education and awareness is changing the common perception that "it's not our personal actions that are responsible for the degradation of the environment but those of other people".

Without a doubt, we all share the responsibility and we can be part of finding and applying a solution. It is a shared responsibility of the

formal education system, the state, business, and society at large.

Today, contrary to the daily pursuit of more commodities and the intensive life style, in an attempt to break the "loneliness" of children absorbed in their electronic games, we propose a series of creative activities, interactive games to enhance sociability, to promote collaboration, to stimulate the imagination, and develop a sense of duty, generosity and environmental awareness among children and people of all ages.

Our sincere hope is to introduce a new paradigm for progress and development which will generate respect for Nature. For a better future, for a better life.

*Theodoros Benos-Palmer
Director of ARCHELON*

“SAVE THE WORLD” PIZZA HUT supports ARCHELON

Pizza Hut launched a new programme with the title “Save the World” which involves raising public awareness about the threatened species and particularly the sea turtle. It is addressed mainly to



children who receive a full packet of information leaflets and drawing material when they buy their pizzas from a Pizza Hut outlet.

In the context of this programme more than sixty Pizza Hut high ranked officers visited the Sea Turtle Rescue Center, to attend a presentation on ARCHELON’s work. They had the opportunity to have a guided tour of the facilities and see the injured turtles currently under treatment.

On 28 March, Pizza Hut and ARCHELON gave a press conference in ATTALOS Hall at Plaka, regarding Pizza Hut’s new programme. Many journalists attended and received information on this new programme.

We would like to thank all those who came to the press conference and especially the Member of the Parliament and Vice-Chairman of the Parliamentary Special Standing Committee on the Environment Mr. Koliopanos. It is worthwhile mentioning that Mr. Theodoros Koliopanos as Deputy-Minister of the Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, had signed the decision for the creation of the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.



Two more old train wagons were purchased and arrived at Glyfada from Thessaloniki thanks to the contribution of VODAFONE Group Foundation. The wagons, which are going to be used as researchers rooms, are already being repaired but they need to be connected to the power supply. Furthermore, a new pavilion, about 60m², is being constructed to host environmental education activities. It must be noted that the ARCHELON environmental education programme is supported by the General Secretariat for Youth of the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs.

We would like to thank the Municipality of Glyfada for the continuing support all of those years.



ARCHELON: NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 24th General Assembly of ARCHELON took place on 4 March 2007. After the administrative and financial reports and the acquittal of the outgoing Board of Directors, the General Assembly discussed and decided the following: (1) the next General Assembly will be constitutional, and (2) the new Board of Directors must assign the committee which will draw up the proposals for amending the constitution of the Society.

Following elections, the new ARCHELON Board of Directors are: President, Anna Kremezi-Margaritouli; Vice-President, Nicolas Raissis; Secretary General, Dimitris Margaritoulis; Treasurer, Dimitris Dimopoulos; Members, Vivi Raissi, Ilias Pitsikas, Thomas Arapis.

PHOTOGRAPH AND VIDEO CONTEST 2006

Following the initiative and the valuable coordination of Vassilis Moustakas, a "Photograph and Video Contest" was organised. The participations were commendable and we would like to thank every one. We also thank Christine Smith for the graphic design of the contest's announcement. The judging committee consisted of Theodoros Benos-Palmer, Vassilis Moustakas, Athina Tsekoura, Theoni Karkoulia. The winners, per category, are the following:



Photo Contest

	Category	Name	Country
1	Moments from volunteers life	Walsh Kyra	England
2	Volunteers' work on the beach	Blacklaws Katharine	England
3	Rescue Centre	Juric Ivan	Serbia
4	Turtle and hatchlings	Lerat Florence	Belgium
5	Human intervention	Van de ven Tanja	Holland

Video Contest

Category	Name	Country
Moments from volunteers life	Cote Anne – Laure	France
Volunteers' work on the beach	Cigna Cataldo	Italy
Rescue Centre	Marino Maria Carmela	Italy
Turtle and hatchlings	Buts Bram	Holland

Volunteer Opportunities

Working for the endangered sea turtles in Greece

Acquire experience in the field

Enjoy interacting with volunteers from around the world
 Work at some of the last remaining nesting areas of the loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta* in the Mediterranean
 For more than 24 years, ARCHELON, the Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece, has been conducting conservation projects on all major nesting grounds of the loggerhead in Greece.

If you are over 18, have at least 4 weeks available, can cope with demanding work and rough living conditions, can communicate in English and feel committed to nature conservation, then join ARCHELON's efforts.

The following placements are now announced:

During the year 2007 nesting season (May to October) on Zakynthos, Crete and Peloponnesus

Volunteers are involved in fieldwork, public awareness and maintenance.

Volunteers stay in basic designated campsites.

All year round at ARCHELON's Rescue Centre, situated in Athens

Volunteers are involved in sea turtle rehabilitation, public awareness and maintenance work. Accommodation is provided at the Centre.

Volunteers cover their own travel and food costs as well as other personal expenses.

Research opportunities are available for undergraduate and graduate students.

Contact us now for further information

ZAKYNTHOS NEWS

ARCHELON recently took part in training seminars for tour-reps, organised by First Choice and MyTravel tour agencies on Zakynthos. As part of the training course participants watched various presentations underlining the problems marine turtles face. Subsequently, tour-reps were asked to formulate a talk on sea turtles to deliver to tourists during their orientation meetings.

The benefit of this training course will be that more visitors will be informed before they actually set foot on Zakynthos this summer. Zakynthos is expecting a record number of flights this year making our public awareness campaign more important than ever.

ARCHELON continues to co-operate with Zakynthos-based charity Earth Sea & Sky in the operation of the Wildlife Information Centre at Gerakas.

PELOPONNESE NEWS

The programme "We Can Live Together", supported by VODAFONE Group Foundation, over the last few months has continued to inform the public of marine ecosystems and sea turtle conservation. A diverse audience including fishermen, divers, yachtsmen and port authorities from the prefectures of Achaia, Iliia, Messinia, Lakonia and Argolida has participated in the programme. Furthermore, project members have visited shops with sea and fishing equipment, marinas, port authorities, yacht clubs, fish piers and other target groups to pass the message. The following cities and towns have to date been visited: Patra, Kato Achaia, Killini, Katakolo, Diacofto, Kalamata, Pilos, Methana, Tolo, Nafplio, Astros, Monemvassia, and several areas in the Prefecture of Attica.

Personal contact with the people of the sea along with the distribution of educational material is helping to promote the message that "We can live together".

CRETE NEWS

For the next turtle season, a new office will be opening in Chania. It is the old primary school of the traditional village of Vrises which has been kindly offered to ARCHELON by the local Municipality. The building is situated about two kilometres away from the nesting beach. The volunteers and field leaders of Chania will

be using the premises for the purpose of the summer fieldwork. In Rethymno, the camp site will be moved to a better location, so this summer volunteers and field leaders will be living in more comfortable conditions.

FUNDERS-THANKS



For support & Media Promotion



For Support



For supporting the Environmental Awareness Programme



For Support



For the sponsorship of the "People of the Sea" awareness programme.



For Support

Want to become a volunteer?

Now is the time to apply by visiting ARCHELON website:
<http://www.archelon.gr>

TURTLE TRACKS straight to your computer

For those who wish to receive TURTLE TRACKS in electronic format please send a message to stps@archelon.gr with your request. This will cut production and mailing costs and it will also save few trees.