

Greetings from the SEH

I met Wolfgang Böhme for the first time at the very beginning of my career, just after my graduation. I remember that he was extremely friendly when talking about lizards, the Mediterranean basin and his deep love for Africa and the tropics, making my first impact with the international professional herpetological world easy and smooth. Throughout our long professional relationship, Wolfgang has always been extraordinarily open to new ideas, sharing research projects with a number of scientists worldwide and prompting the creation of a network of enthusiastic believers, such as for the circum-Mediterranean *Podarcis* fans. I remember very well the beginning of the “saga” of the Symposia on the Lacertids of the Mediterranean, together with Nicholas E. Arnold, Massimo Capula, Valentin Pérez-Mellado, Efstratios Valakos and, which is still successfully ongoing. In the nineties, as President of the *Societas Europaea Herpetologica*,

Wolfgang Böhme put a tremendous effort into establishing collaborations between the national European herpetological societies. He also opened the doors of the herpetological collection of the Alexander Koenig Museum to a multitude of island zoologists, inducing the full scientific exploitation of such an extraordinary biological treasure. His outstanding scientific activity, together with his humanity and intellectual generosity make Wolfgang Böhme one of the reference point in and out my professional life and I'll always be grateful to him and his lovely family for such a warm and positive friendship.

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(President *Societas Europaea Herpetologica*)

Bonn, November 2010

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Bonn zoological Bulletin - früher Bonner Zoologische Beiträge.](#)

Jahr/Year: 2010

Band/Volume: [57](#)

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