

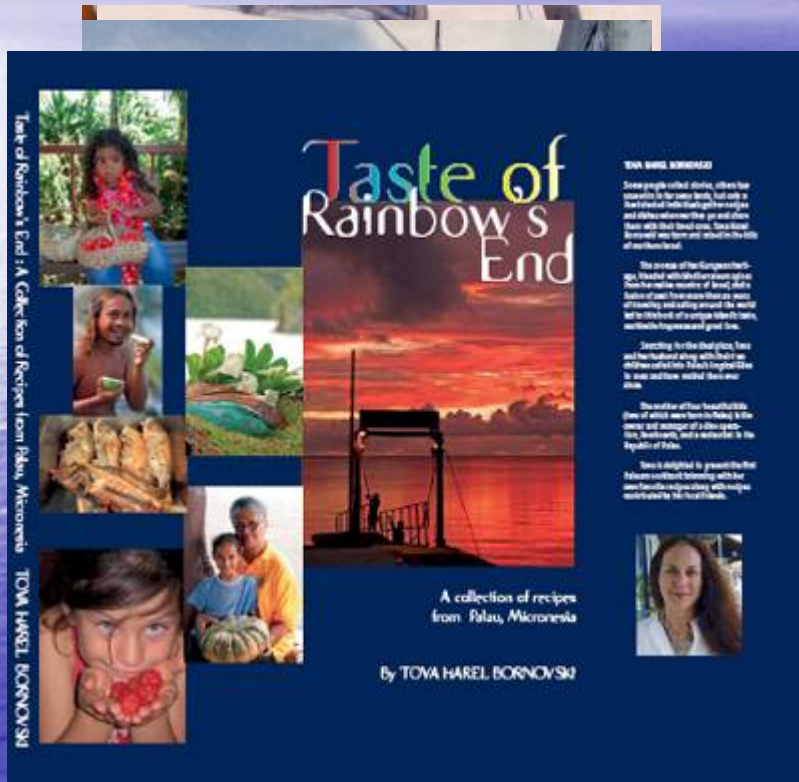
My tale of 20 years in Palau



By Tova Harel-Bornovski

“When you want something all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it” – Paolo Coelho

A little about me



- born in Israel
- Diplomat's daughter, lived in Europe and became multilingual
- ranked as sergeant in Israeli military, as a tour guide/ ranger
- studied tourism for 2 years.
- worked as a journalist for Israel's biggest daily newspaper Maariv
- published articles on travel
- sailed around the world for 4.5 years

How we came to Palau



- Worked in Palau on liveaboard Sun-Tamarin in 1986/7 with Francis Toribiong/ Fish 'n Fins
- sailed Ocean Hunter I from Florida to Palau in 1992

My story with Fish 'n' Fins

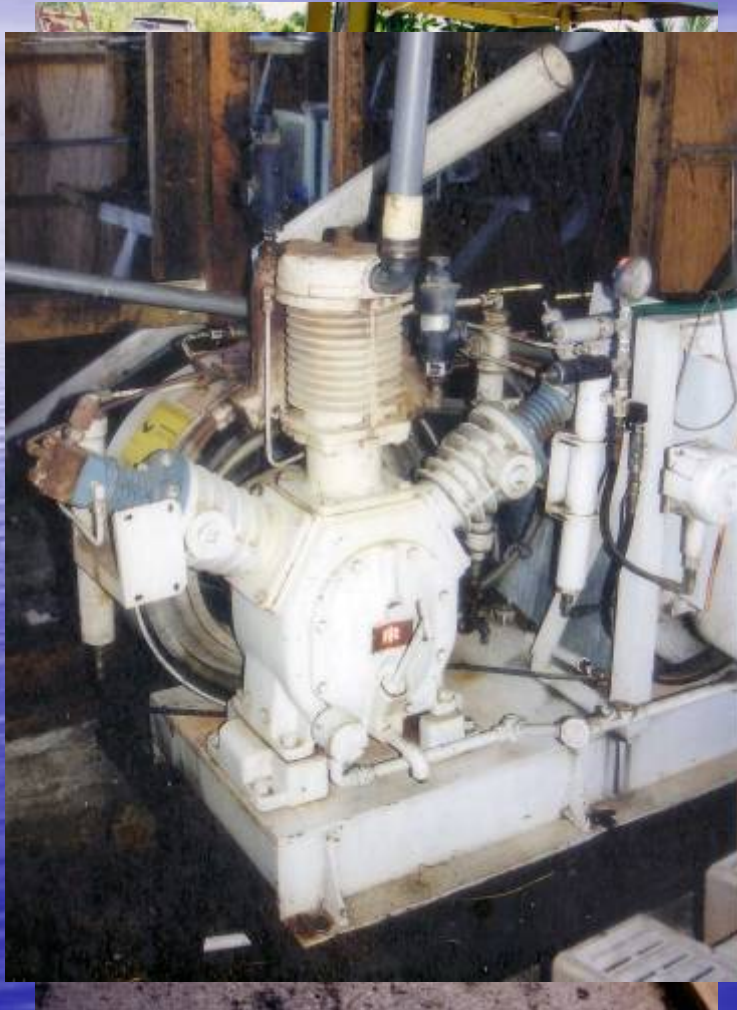


- introduced Ocean Hunter I as a liveboard at Fish 'n Fins in 1993
- took over the daily operation of Fish 'n Fins in 1998
- purchased Ocean Hunter II in 2003
- purchased Ocean Hunter III in 2007

Before and after



Before and after



Before and after



Contributions to the Community

- education:
 - training Palauan as skilled professionals such as divemasters and boat captains



- selecting high school students to train for their future
- local involvement with Tourism

Contributions to the community

- environment:
 - clean up days coordinated with Palauan children and the Palau Community College



- trash management through the provision of reusable bento boxes and drink bottles at Fish 'n Fins



Further contributions



- Introduction of international events in Palau
 - UW photography festival
 - Shark Week
 - Wrexpedition
- Launch of the Micronesian Shark Foundation in 2002
 - gathering of information and scientific data for shark protection
 - increase shark awareness
 - piloted with Boston University
 - satellite tagging due to commence in 2008 with AIMS
- Television Productions

The End

