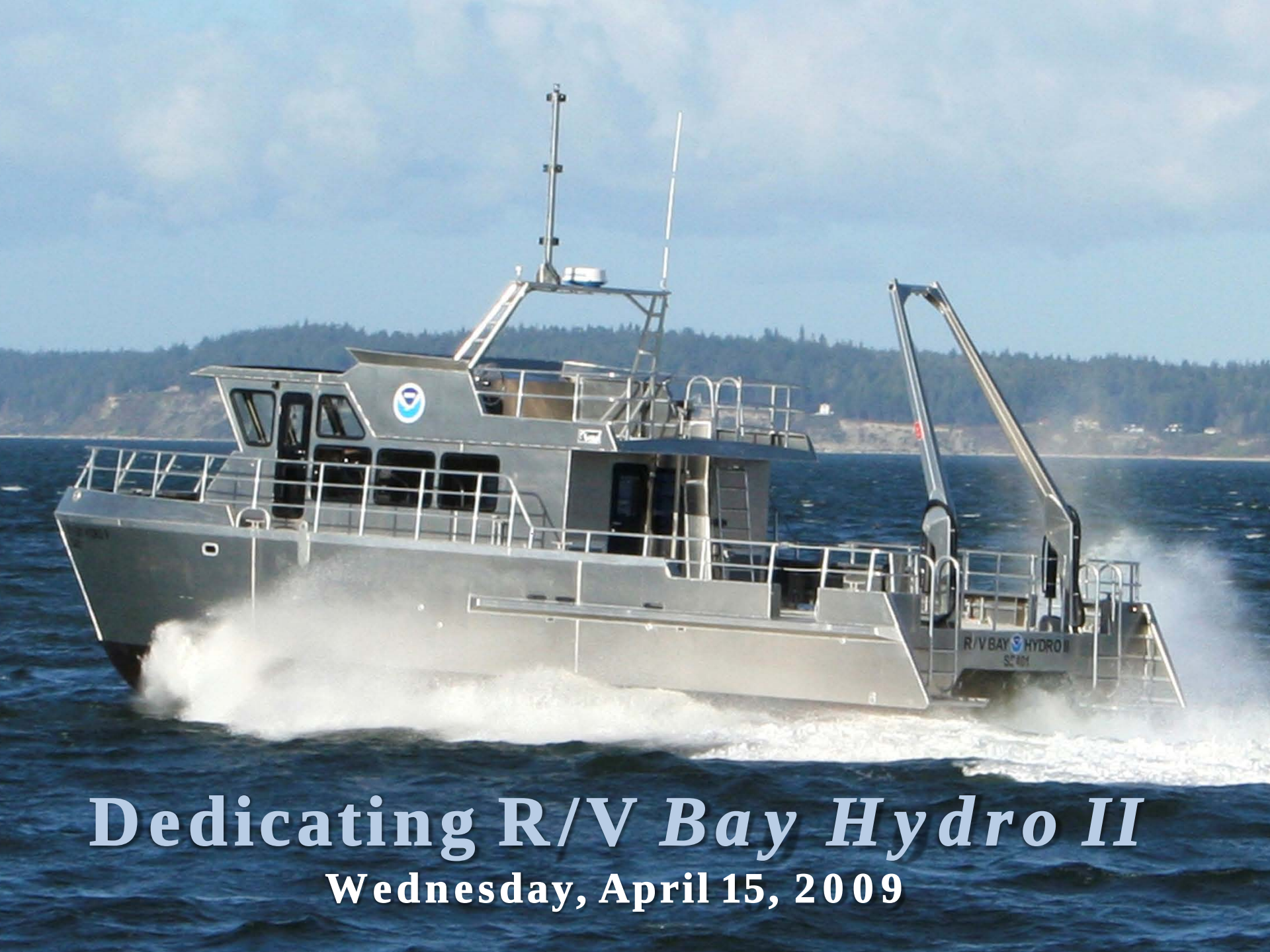


Dedicating R/V *Bay Hydro II*

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Although it was raining, R/V *Bay Hydro II* was dressed to impress on dedication day. The ceremony took place next to the historic U.S.S. *Constellation* in Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

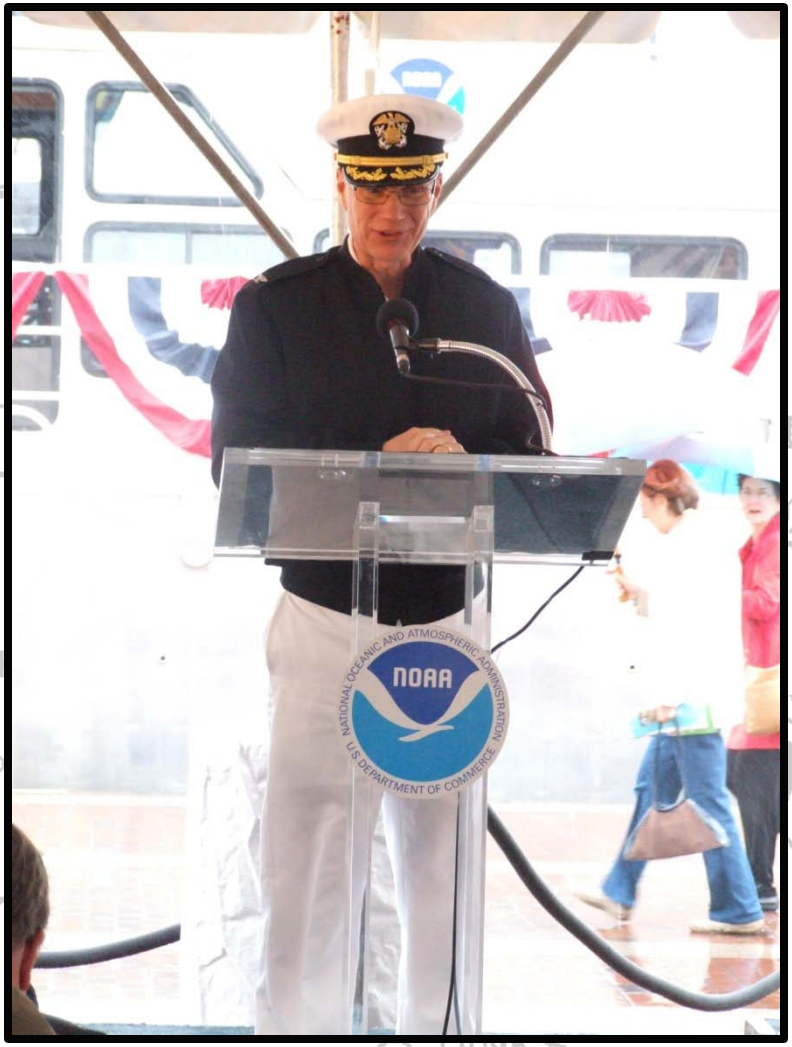
Dedication Ceremony Official Party (Left to Right)
CAPT Steven Barnum (Director, NOAA's Office of Coast Survey)
Mary Glackin (Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere)
Jack Dunnigan (Assistant Administrator, NOAA's National Ocean Service)
Jeremy Weirich (Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate)

Dedication Ceremony Official Party (Left to Right)

Frank Hamons (Deputy Director of Harbor Development, Maryland Port Administration)

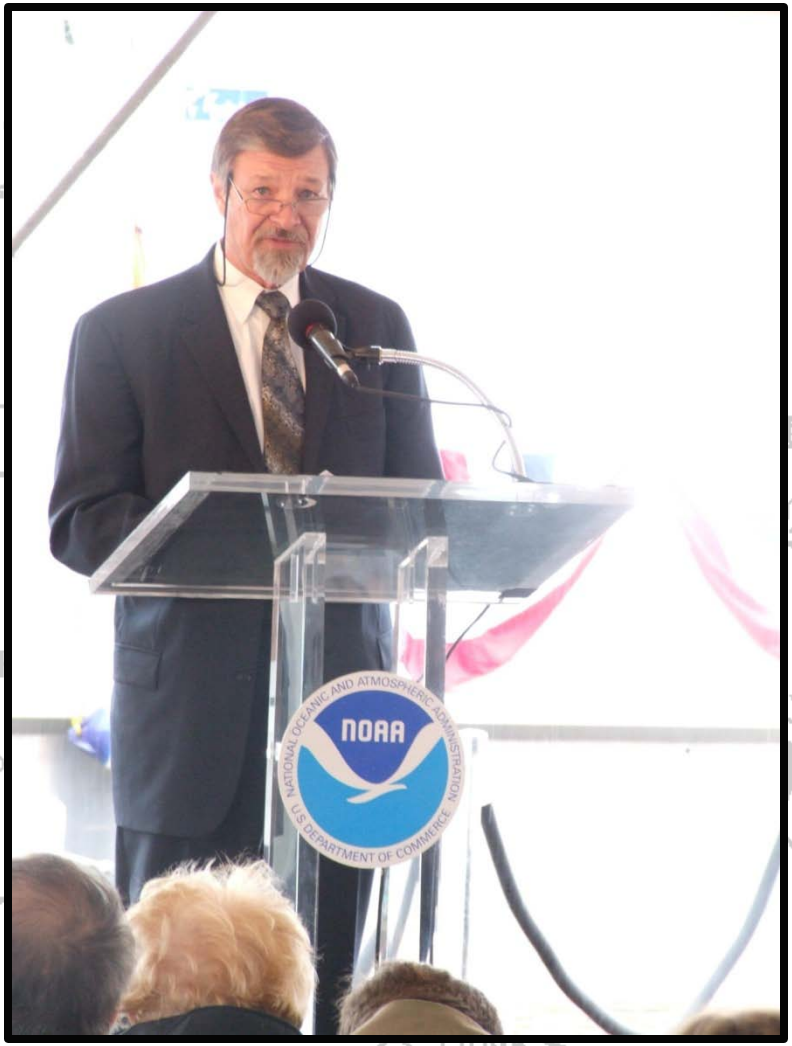
CAPT Eric Nielsen (President, Association of Maryland Pilots)

CAPT Mike Watson (President, American Pilots Association)



CAPT Barnum delivers opening remarks, welcoming an audience of nearly 100 before welcoming R/V *Bay Hydro II* to NOAA's hydrographic survey fleet.

Deputy Under Secretary Mary Glackin delivers keynote remarks, noting that *Bay Hydro II* is much more than a survey vessel; it also is NOAA's primary platform for testing and evaluating new survey technologies. In closing, she officially declared R/V *Bay Hydro II* ready for service.



CAPT Mike Watson of the American Pilots Association delivers a speech and describes *Bay Hydro II*'s important role in collecting data used to update NOAA's nautical charts. NOAA charts allow pilots to guide some of the world's largest ships to and from the Port of Baltimore.

Jeremy Weirich, a staff member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, presents a letter written by Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland, congratulating NOAA on its newest vessel and wishing safe voyages.

Assistant Administrator Jack Dunnigan describes the importance of R/V *Bay Hydro II* and the role it will play in protecting lives and property in the Chesapeake Bay and Mid-Atlantic.

Jack Dunnigan (center) facilitates the plaque presentation with Kvichak Marine Industries' Jim Gow (right) and vessel's commanding officer LT Michael Davidson (left)

The Honorable Helen Delich Bentley (center front), Former Congresswoman of Maryland, stands with Mary Glackin (left), CAPT Barnum (center back) and LT Davidson (right), before dropping the christening bottle.

Former Congresswoman Helen Bentley (left photo) and Mary Glackin (right) have a few attempts at swinging the champagne bottle…

Success!

Following the ceremony, the dedication plaque is made available for the public to view.