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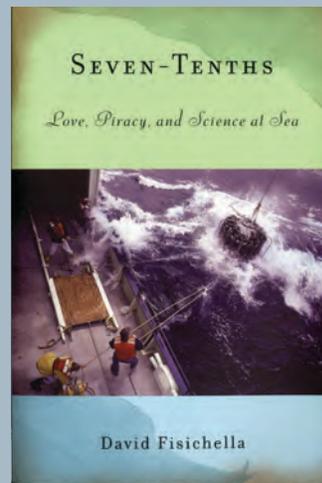
## Love, Piracy, Science and Literature at Sea



Tom Klenndinst, WHOI

In 1996, WHOI physical oceanographer Amy Bower met David Fisichella at the Carroll Center for the Blind in Newton, Mass. Bower, who has macular degeneration, was participating in an Outward Bound program there, and Fisichella, an engineer, was a sighted guide for a sailing program for the blind. She invited him to participate as a volunteer on a research cruise she was leading to the Gulf of Aden in 2001.

Fisichella began writing e-mails to family and friends describing the science and life aboard ship during the cruise. It included an attack by pirates off the Somali coast and the news from afar of the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center. Fisichella kept writing, drafting a manuscript that also told about Bower's life as a blind oceanographer.



Bower and Fisichella are now married, and he became manager of shipboard scientific services for WHOI in 2006. 2010 heralded two more highlights: Fisichella's book, *Seven-Tenths* (a reference to the proportion of our planet covered by ocean)

was published, and Bower was named an "Unsung Heroine of Massachusetts" by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women for her work with visually impaired students.

Dave Fisichella and Amy Bower

**WELCOME HOME, ATLANTIS**—Nathan (left) and Patrick McGuire, sons of WHOI geophysicist Jeff McGuire, welcome the research vessel *Atlantis* home to Woods Hole this summer. They brought along LEGO models of the ship that they made, which included miniature replicas of the deep submergence vehicle *Alvin*. *Atlantis* returned on Sept. 6, 2010, after more than four years away. During that time, it sailed more than 104,000 miles and conducted 60 science expeditions, and *Alvin* made 475 dives. In December, *Atlantis* and *Alvin* sailed to the Gulf of Mexico to investigate environmental impacts in the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.



Ken Kostel, WHOI