



Schooner Western Union

PRESERVATION SOCIETY & MARITIME MUSEUM



OFFICIAL FLAGSHIP OF FLORIDA & THE CITY OF KEY WEST



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August 01, 2017

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Key West Bight Management District Board
510 Greene Street
Key West, FL 33040

Re: 2017-07 KWBB / schooner Western Union Restoration Progress Report

- A. SWUPS has received assured funding from a source that will cover the added cost of repair to the ribs, keel and mast incurred as part of the *Western Union's* restoration.
 - a. There are enough funds certain to complete the restoration of the schooner as originally planned. The source of the funds will be disclosed as soon as possible.
- B. Once the structural repairs are complete in the Tarpon Springs boatyard it is still the plan to motor the schooner to Stock Island to complete installation of the 65 ft. foremast, booms, rigging and sails.
 - a. This same finishing work on the *Western Union* was performed in the past on Stock Island under the direction of the current Captain of the schooner.
 - b. There is a significant expense savings of installing the schooner's mast, boom, rigging and sails, etc. in a Stock Island marina by the same crew that will sail the vessel compared to paying a boatyard to perform these same tasks.
- C. The U.S. Coast Guard inspector assigned to the schooner restoration, Larry Jones, stated during my and Richard Manley's June 27 visit to the Tarpon Springs boatyard: "when I am finished with your ship it will be a tank."
 - a. This is due to the added structural integrity made to the ships cradle (ribs) and the 90 ft. steel shoe being installed on the keel, ¼ in. side and ½ in. bottom steel that will add decades of life to the *Western Union*.
 - b. The additional work has added time and expense; however, as stated, SWUPS has the funds; therefore, the restoration is being completed properly and the *Western Union* will come back stronger than she's been in decades.
- D. In addition to visits to the Tarpon Springs boatyard by SWUPS Project Director, R. Manley and Chair, W. Barry, the schooner's Captain, Lenn Verreau has been living on his vessel tied up in the boatyard since last summer and is observing all work being performed and submits a weekly written report to SWUPS.
 - a. There is also a weekly conference call between the boatyard and SWUPS management to sustain good project communications.
- E. The 3rd (of 4) \$125,000 FL DOS Historic grant payment requests were submitted on July 29 to the SOF. Upon payment of the 3rd grant request, there will be an additional \$125,000 of SWU grant funds remaining with the SOF and \$50,000 that also remain from the CKW/KWBB funds provided for the restoration.
 - a. This does not include the additional forthcoming funds that will cover the added repair expenses incurred, as stated above.

www.SchoonerWesternUnion.org ■ wmbarry@outlook.com ■ Phone (305) 240-0898

P.O. Box 4379, Key West, FL 33041 ■ 201 William Street, Key West FL 33040

The Schooner Western Union Preservation Society is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit-organization FEI # 20-5958968. A COPY OF OUR OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING (800) 435-7352. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT BY THE STATE.

Florida's Historic Sailing Maritime Museum

- F. Pictured is part of the SWU 90 ft. steel shoe being installed over the newly fiber-glassed keel.
- a. The ship is jacked up in sections to perform the task.



William M. Barry

Chairman

Copy: S. Harrison, CKW Clerk, Doug Bradshaw, Port/Marina Dir., CKW & SWUPS BOD

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