



# Schooner Western Union

PRESERVATION SOCIETY & MARITIME MUSEUM



OFFICIAL FLAGSHIP OF FLORIDA & THE CITY OF KEY WEST



Monday, 3 March 2020

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

Subj: 2020-02 KWBB Schooner Western Union Restoration Progress Report

The Schooner Western Union has returned to the Keys and she is safely berthed at the 3D boatyard on Stock Island.

- A. The Schooner's keel and hull are secure and relatively sound. There are a few minor leaks but they are easily handled by the automated pumps on board the Schooner.
- B. Initial contacts have been made with local Coast Guard inspectors.
- C. We have determined that, with the vessel's substantially reduced weight, due to the removal of the masts, rigging, ballast lead, etc., we will be able to haul out the Schooner at Robbie's Marina. This haulout will facilitate the bottom repairs that remain to be completed. Management at Robbie's has said they will haul the schooner and allow her to be worked at Robbies for no charge.
- D. We are developing plans for this next stage of the restoration and meeting with potential shipwrights.
- E. We are working with the Southernmost Women & Bourbon organization who will host three events during Bourbon, Blues & BBQ 2020; all held at the historic Harry S Truman Little White House on Memorial Day weekend 22-24 May 2020. The net proceeds from the event will benefit the Schooner Western Union Preservation Society's restoration efforts. We are also researching additional opportunities for grants and other support.
- F. If you have questions or I can provide additional information, please let me know.

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On behalf of the BOD,

John Dolan-Heitlinger

Copy: Doug Bradshaw, CKW Port and Marina Services Director  
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