



Schooner Western Union

PRESERVATION SOCIETY & MARITIME MUSEUM

OFFICIAL FLAGSHIP OF FLORIDA & THE CITY OF KEY WEST



Monday, 4 March 2019

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

Subj: 2019-02 KWBB Schooner Western Union Restoration Progress Report

As described in the letter previously forwarded to the Board restoration work on the Schooner Western Union has largely halted due to a lack of funding.

- A. The schooner remains in the water tied up against the pier in the Marpro boatyard in Tarpon Springs. Her keel and hull are strong and sound and there is only the very minor leakage that all wooden boats experience which is handled by pumps. The schooner and stored spars and other materials have been covered and secured.
- B. Our Captain Lenn Verreau is still onsite at the yard and carrying out minor repairs and making sure the schooner is protected from the elements as much as possible. The yard is providing power to run the pumps on the vessel.
- C. We are contacting previous funders and hope that we can get additional funding.
- D. State Senator Anitere Flores and Representative Holly Raschein have filed bills for a special appropriation for \$1.3 million from the Florida State Department.
- E. We have undertaken a short term fundraising campaign to pay for Harold Burnham, a noted wooden boat shipwright, to inspect the schooner in Tarpon Springs and write a preservation plan for the vessel which will include fundraising strategies. Mr. Burnham led the campaign to preserve the official tall ship of Massachusetts the Ernestina-Morrissey.

If you have questions or would like additional information please let me know.

On behalf of the BOD,

John Dolan-Heitlinger

Copy: Sue Harrison, CKW Sr. Deputy City Clerk
Mari Lindsley, CKW Deputy City Clerk
Doug Bradshaw, CKW Port and Marina Services Director
SWUPS Board of Directors

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www.SchoonerWesternUnion.org ■ john@dolan-heitlinger.com ■ Phone (305) 292-1208

P.O. Box 4379, Key West, FL 33041 ■ 202-R 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