



Schooner Western Union

PRESERVATION SOCIETY & MARITIME MUSEUM



OFFICIAL FLAGSHIP OF FLORIDA & THE CITY OF KEY WEST

February 01, 2017



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

Re: 2017-01 KWBB / schooner Western Union Restoration Progress Report

Board of Directors

William M. Barry
Chairman

Frank Holden
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Project Management

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John Jones
City Relations

Edwin O. Swift, III
At Large

- A. The schooner, still on the boatyard rails and largely opened, was inspected Jan. 09 by the United States Coast Guard wooden boat restoration ship inspectors.
 - a. Present were SWU Marine Surveyor & Shipwright, Capt. Allen Taube, SWU Capt. Lenn Verreau, SWUPS Chair, William Barry, MarPro Shipwright Capt. George Georgio.
- B. With much of the ship now opened the USCG requested that an updated refit (repair) plan be submitted. The SWU licensed & certified Marine Surveyor, Capt. Taube completed a very comprehensive recommended refit plan. Taube's plan was so complete the USCG approved the updated refit plan in an unprecedented 24-hrs.
 - a. The updated refit plan restores the vessel to both the USCG and the Secretary of Interior Guidelines for restoration of a wooden vessel.
 - b. The ships internal flooring (known as Ceiling on a vessel that sits above the ribs) was largely removed and revealed several of the schooner's frames (ribs) were severely deteriorated from deck fresh water leaks. It has been determined and approved by the USCG that all but one of the ribs can be rebuilt in place and when complete will be stronger than the original frame. This is also significantly less costly than replacing the ribs.
 - c. The schooner's deck is to be replaced to end leaking after the below water line work is complete.
- C. The Transom (rear) of vessel has been mostly removed and is being reconstructed.
- D. Upon completion of the Transom the schooner will be jacked up in sections and a steel shoe will be wrapped around the length of the keel to prevent "hogging" (keel warping) of the vessel. This is a common practice with an 80-yr. wooden ship.

William M. Barry
Chairman

Copy: Sue Harrison, City Clerk, CKW,
Doug Bradshaw, Port & Marina Dir., CKW
SWUPS BOD

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Florida's Historic Sailing Maritime Museum