



# Schooner Western Union

PRESERVATION SOCIETY & MARITIME MUSEUM



OFFICIAL FLAGSHIP OF FLORIDA & THE CITY OF KEY WEST



December 01, 2017

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

Re: 2017-11 KWBB / schooner Western Union Restoration Progress Report

## Board of Directors

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*Chairman*

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*City Relations*

Edwin O. Swift, III  
*At Large*

## Recent Board Member

Richard Manley  
*Project Management*

- A. The 90-ft. keel steel shoe is complete. This will stop the vessel "hogging" (the keel raising up in the center) and will add decades of life to the ship's keel.
- B. Manley de Boer Lumber has found a vendor that can supply the expensive White Oak lumber preferred for the schooner's hull rib repairs at significantly less cost than any other lumber supplier.
  - A. Manley de Boer is also waving their mark-up. This is a nice tribute by Manley de Boer Lumber to Richard Manley, SWUPS board member and Project Director for 10-yrs. who was tragically lost in a home accident last September. Our appreciation to Erik de Boer (Richard Manley's business partner for over 30-yrs.) for his generosity and efforts that will save many thousands of dollars on the unanticipated hull rib repair work on the schooner.
- C. Finding a manufacture for the 65-ft. H x 16.5-in. W Foremast has become problematic. Apparently there is one vendor that all wooden tall ships use, that being the Spar Shop in Washington State. That manufacture for over a year and continues to be temporarily out of production for a variety of reasons.
  - A. Several other tall wooden ships have gone to making tall masts through a process of laminating layers of wood. The result is a mast that is stronger than a single tree and is less expensive. This option seems to be not the only way to go but appears to also be more desirable. Plans are being finalized to make a mast and is anticipated to be approved by our Marine Surveyor and the USCG Inspector assigned to the schooner.
- D. We are hoping to return the schooner to Key West before this summer.

William M. Barry

Chairman

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

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*Florida's Historic Sailing Maritime Museum*