Fellow Shipmates,

Our next reunion for the USS Willard Keith Reunion Association is scheduled to take place in Providence/Warwick Rhode Island during the period October 14th (Sunday) and ending on October 17th (Wednesday), 2018. Activities will include a visit to Battleship Cove and the USS Massachusetts (BB 59), the USS Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. (DD 850), the USS Lionfish (SS 298) and a Warsaw Pact East German Corvette. Included in this visit will be a tour of the fascinating PT boat museum which chronicles the contributions of PT boat crews during WW II. Here you will have the opportunity to visit two National Historic Landmarks, PT 617 and PT 796.

Our reunion would not be complete without a tour of Naval Station Newport, The Naval War College, and the Surface Warfare Training Center located there. After an orientation outlining the many missions of this base, our tour will include a visit to operational simulators used to train Junior Officers. If a Naval ship is in port, a ship visit will be included contingent upon operational requirements. The visit will end with a memorial service in the base chapel. A visit to one of the Newport mansions, The Breakers, and city tours may be included depending upon ship availability.

The CROWNE PLAZA Hotel at 801 Greenwich Avenue, in Warwick, Rhode Island 02886 has been contacted to host our reunion based upon its:

* Superb reputation for hosting past military reunions.
* Proximity to T.F. Green International Airport (see attached) and the fact that it provides a complimentary shuttle.
* Hot well-rounded breakfast for up to four room guests.
* Discounted room rate of $109.00/night plus taxes which is available three days before and three days after our reunion **IF ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE**. Heads-up: as of March 1st this hotel was totally booked for the night before our reunion begins, October 13th. If you would like to arrive on the 13th continue to check availability with the hotel as the blocked rooms may be released.
* Complimentary WIFI and parking.

You may make hotel reservation now by calling the hotel at (401) 732-6000 and asking for the USS Willard Keith Reunion Association rate of $109/night plus taxes or by going on line at www. crownhotelwarwick.com and using our reunion code of “**UWK**”.

The cost of this reunion, exclusive of your hotel room, will be determined not later than April 1st and once the Navy confirms whether we will have lunch in the mess hall or Officers Club. It is safe to say that the cost per attendee will be less than that charged at Nashville. By April 1st, the Board intends to have the total cost established, the agenda completed, and the attendance application posted to our web page. Additional information will be posted to our website as it becomes available.

Please do not hesitate to email (mmchenry@tmmg.us.com) or call (757) 244-6648 me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Warm Regards, Mike McHenry