

## Mess Hall Brightened By Meade's Murals

There is a story behind the coloured murals being painted on the bulkheads in the after mess hall. It is a story of two members of the crew going out of their way to make the messing facilities more attractive for the rest of the crew. The idea was Chief Donelley's and he knew the right man for the job---Bob Meade, RDSM.

### Painting is Hobby

Painting has been Meade's hobby for eight years and some of his work has been entered in contests. Although he has to paint in his spare time--usually at night or on the weekends--Bob has managed to get a lot done considering that each separate panel takes about 8 or 9 hours to finish. Eventually, Meade hopes to decorate both mess halls with a complete series of murals that will depict the Bennington's travels and activities.

A transfer off of the ship would end Meade's project. He hopes that he can make the Med cruise and finish what he has started.

### Sweetheart Contest Deadline

#### Extended to May 25th.

You now have more time to enter your best girl in the Bennington's Sweetheart Contest. The deadline for entries has been changed to 0600 on 25 May because of the Dance Committee's plans to hold the ship's dance at a later date.

Every member of the crew is eligible to enter either his wife, sweetheart, daughter, sister or a friend in the contest.

To enter your choice for the Bennington's Sweetheart, do the following: Neatly print her name, address, age and relationship on a piece of paper. After adding your own name, rate and division to the paper, attach it to a suitable picture of the girl and turn it in at the Special Services Office (now located

## CREW'S VIEWS

**QUESTION:** What features would you like to see expanded or added to the ship's recreational program?

D. T. Rust, SN  
Chicago, Illinois



"Four or five ping-pong tables. They could be taken up and down just as easily as the volleyball nets. I think you'd find a lot of fellows who would like to play. I think we could use another TV set."



C. F. Handrahan,  
SKSN, Pensacola,  
Florida

"Handball is a good active sport. A backboard could easily be set up on the flightdeck and taken down every day. They could paint shuffleboard courts on the hangerdeck, too. There are enough TV sets but the spaces they are in are rather small."

ed in the Education Office.)

A committee of five enlisted men will choose five finalists from the pictures submitted by the crew. Each of these girls will have large glossy photos taken of herself right in her home town. These pictures of the five finalists will be sent to Piper Laurie, the famed movie beauty, who will select the winner.

The lucky lady will be brought to New York City with all expenses paid and will be Queen for a Day aboard ship and then reign as guest of honor at the ship's dance.

C. Layne, SN  
Charleston,  
West Virginia



"I'd like to see one of the elevator pits made into a swimming pool on the weekends. They could rig a canvas lining and fill it with water. It has been done on other carriers and destroyers. I'd like to see the band play every day."



Wm. E. Morgan, GM3  
No. Little Rock,  
Arkansas

"More Happy Hours—I need to be happy. I like amateur hours. They ought to fix up the movie so all hands can see it. Either add more chairs or have three showings."

Frank Guilli, AN,  
Cleveland, Ohio



"Should have a ship's football team to represent the Bennington in the fleet. Also, four section liberty in New York City instead of three sections."



Tom Hawkins, SDI,  
Henderson, North  
Carolina

"Should have more Happy Hours. They are the best things on the ship. Should have one twice a week if possible. It'd be good to have a smoker with boxing matches."