



Immediately prior to our departure from Long Beach last May there was a lot of activity. Part of it was the work of getting ship and family affairs in order for the cruise and another part of it was a round of entertainment for the members of ship's company and their families. Through the good offices of the Captain, Chaplain Follard, Mr. Larry Crosby, and Mr. Johnny Grant we had three separate events: The Johnny Grant Show on the fantail of the ship; a major Hollywood premiere with movie personalities as guests for dinner and members of the ship's company as their guests for the movie later at a downtown theater; and last, but not least, we had our big ship's party at a Long Beach Hotel. The party ran for two nights so that all hands might attend. At the top of the page Captain Gentry is seen with Jack Benny's "Rochester", who was a star of the ship's party floor show. The pictures below and on the following pages are random shots from the various functions.

