

Bellarmino Alumni Mothers Extended Network

May 7, 2025



May 7 forecast for ZIP Code 95126

Today: Sunny 79°; Thursday: Mostly Sunny 82°;
Friday: Sunny 85° [\[click for current weather\]](#)



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Alumni Mothers Extended Network

May 2025

President's Message

Dear Bellarmine Alumni Mothers,

As I sit down to write this final opening letter for the school year, I am filled with both gratitude and a touch of wistful reflection. What a fast and fun year it has been!

For 24 years, A.M.E.N. has served as a bridge—connecting us across time, across graduating classes, and across the shared experiences that have defined our unique role in the Bellarmine community. Whether your son graduated last year or decades ago, the strength and warmth of this group have remained constant, a true testament to the spirit of Bellarmine.

This past year, we have celebrated with our Fall and Spring Dinners, spent a beautiful day in retreat, shared service opportunities, been wine tasting, hiking, needleworking and countless more activities! Each time we have come together has been a love letter to community, faith, and enduring connection.

As I pass the baton on to Julie Paulsen, I know A.M.E.N will continue in very capable, loving and smart hands! The legacy of this community lives on in the friendships we've made, the values we've passed on, and the quiet but powerful ways we continue to support Bellarmine from beyond the campus gates.

A special and deep thank you to this past year's Steering Committee. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your tireless dedication, thoughtful collaboration, and unwavering commitment. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as Chair of this remarkable group. Once a Bell Mom....always a Bell Mom!

GO BELLS!

With heartfelt gratitude and every blessing,

Gigi Harvey
Chair, AMEN Steering Committee



We need leaders like you!

The Bellarmine Alumni Mothers Extended Network (aka AMEN) Steering Committee is looking for **new committee members**! The time commitment is minimal but the fun and impact is huge. The steering committee aims to enrich the lives of alumni mothers by continuing the fellowship and service traditions established during their sons' time at Bellarmine.

The committee is composed of a dedicated group within Bellarmine that oversees various activities and initiatives for alumni mothers. The committee focuses on fostering community, providing mentorship, and organizing social activities including dinners, service/volunteer activities, interest groups, and an annual retreat.

We are looking for leaders to fill the following roles- Interest Group Liaison and Fall Service Project/Spring Retreat. You can find out more about the steering committee by reaching out to Julie Paulsen at julie.paulsen@earthlink.net or cell at 408-705-7488. You can also find out more on the alumni mothers page at <https://www.bcp.org/amen#panel-2>. We would love to have you as part of our team.

The AMEN Spring Dinner: A Night to Remember



The 2025 Spring Dinner on April 15 was an unforgettable evening filled with camaraderie, celebration, and community spirit. It was a delightful occasion for reconnecting with old friends, meeting new ones, and learning how to stay connected to the Bellarmine family.

Brayden Callan, Bellarmine graduate and current Santa Clara University student, was our special guest of the night. He discussed the influence Bellarmine has had on him, offering an intellectual and spiritual setting while fostering his commitment to serving others. Before dinner, Father Mike Manalastas said grace and blessed the food.



During the dinner, we heard from some interest group leaders, who provided overviews of some new and exciting groups available to AMEN members. We also received a sneak peak of the annual Bellarmine Mothers' Guild fashion show which will be held at the Hotel Signia Saturday, November 22, 2025.



The event concluded with a heartfelt goodbye and big Thank You to Gigi Harvey, our outgoing chair of the Alumni Mothers Extended Network.

Fun at the Bellarmine Fashion Show Meeting!



Gigi H. and Michelle A. had such a blast attending the **Bellarmino Fashion Show Meeting** at the Luccardo Building! The event was packed with energy, where they announced the theme for the Fashion Show: **BRIGHTS LIGHTS CITY NIGHTS**. And the Bellarmine moms were all smiles as they learned about AMEN and everything we offer for moms of graduating seniors.

The biggest buzz? Our Interest Groups! So many moms were ready to sign up on the spot — we had to gently remind them, “Not until your son graduates!” Needless to say, they’re excited for what’s ahead.

Our sales table was hopping, too! We raised over \$1000 (yay!). Top-selling favorites included the lifeguard hats, silver bell necklaces, visors, and those super cute burlap totes. We also sold plenty of ornaments and luggage tags — all special AMEN-exclusive goodies you can’t find in the Bellarmine gift store.

It was a wonderful evening filled with new connections, and lots of Bellarmine spirit. We’re already looking forward to the next event!

Upcoming Events

AMEN Book Club:

Monday evening book club meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. We are at 5 members now so have room for a few more.

Our next meeting is on Monday, May 12, 2025. We will be discussing **THE LAST TWILIGHT IN PARIS** by Pam Jenoff.

We will be meeting at Rosemary Mayle's home, 1962 University Ave, San Jose, 408 781-3343

AMEN/LAMP Hiking Group

AMEN is hiking once a month on the weekend, with the LAMP group from Presentation! If you would like to join the group, please contact Ashley Hopkins at ashleychp66@gmail.com.

April Hike: Saturday May 17 Hike at Mt Umunhum Trail

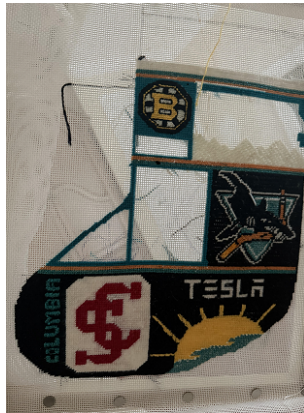
Meet at 8:30 am at Ashley's house for carpool. You have the option to have lunch afterwards in Pacifica.

Please contact Ashley Hopkins Pass at ashleychp66@gmail.com if you want to join this hike and to obtain more details.



The June hike will be at Mt Madonna on June 21.

Needlepoint: Sunday, May 18th from 12 - 3:00pm



Stitching at the home of Maria von Massenhause. All levels are welcome.

Contact Maria if you are interested at mtvonmassenhause@gmail.com or 408-839-9808

This photo shows Michelle Abene's creation in the works. We have a ton of fun. Come join us!

A.M.E.N. Pickleball

The AMEN Pickleball Interest group had a fun morning playing pickleball, reconnecting and making new friendships. If you are interested in getting on the list to be invited to future events please email leahschnoor@gmail.com.



Wine Club:

On April 16, the Wine Tasting Club gathered at Testarossa Winery in Los Gatos for an enjoyable afternoon of great wine and even better company. Six enthusiastic members attended, sharing stories and laughter while sampling a variety of wines. It's always a pleasure to welcome new faces and connect over a shared appreciation for wine.

Mark your calendars—our next tasting will be held on Friday, May 9 at 3:00 PM, once again at Testarossa outside, under the redwoods. The tasting is free, thanks to our generous AMEN members, with a \$5 tip for the server. Come sip, savor, and socialize! To be added to the Evite list, text Michelle at 408-656-1399



More AMEN Interest Groups

AMEN College Mentor Program: If you are interested in helping a BCP graduating senior and his family make a final college decision, please join the College Mentor Program so your name can be added to the database. After the first of the year, as graduating seniors start receiving their college acceptances, this service puts them in contact with BCP alumni families who have had a son attend that school. If interested in being added to the database, please send your name, cell phone and email address along with the name(s) of the colleges your son attended to Susan Munne, susan@munne.com

Support Group for Aging Parents: This group helps us support each other as we care for and empower our parents. Our parents raise us to be independent. Now we learn to surrender as they surrender their independence, from the driver's license, the finance, then day-to-day activities until the last breath. We witness and help them journey through these adjustments and acceptance with grace and dignity. Be patient and gentle with them and ourselves. To join, call/text Alice at 650-255-1838 or scan1230@comcast.net.

Knitting Group: We will meet the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 12-2, rotating the location amongst our members. Newbies welcome! Lead by Katherine Pompili, kpompili@pacbell.net.

Hiking Group: Meets Monday mornings at 8:15, locations vary. Lead by Teresa Giovanzana, teresagiovanzana@comcast.net.

Spirituality Group: Changing format and will meet 1X per month now. Lead by Sarah Bonini, sarahjbonini@gmail.com.

Book Club: We meet every 6 weeks (approximately) and have enjoyed the friendship as well as the book review. We meet on Tuesday evenings at Aqui in Cupertino and currently have 2 openings. Lead by Abby Baker, baker20045@comcast.net.

Home First and Helping Hands: Lead by Linda Chin, chindalin@aol.com.

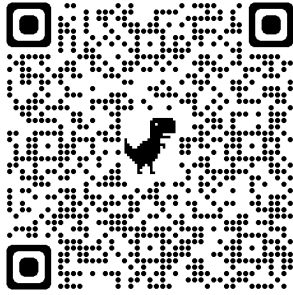
Golf Group: Lead by Catherine Christofferson, catherine@icreatemovies.com.

Mahjong Group: Lead by Rose Simon, simon143@comcast.net and and Bik Wah, calpolyglot@aol.com. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month from 2-4pm in O'Donnell 205.

Get involved! Join an Interest Group

Hiking? Reading? Golfing? There is a group for you! **Sign up for an interest group with this FORM** (or use the QR code above) and remember to renew your AMEN membership before joining an interest group! Contact Chrissy Brinck, chrissybrinck@hotmail.com, for more information or if you would like to start your own group.

Want to be part of the fun? Scan this QR code and join an interest group (or two or three!).



Go Bells!



Bellarmino Alumni Mothers Extended Network; San Jose, California 95126-1215

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