

# Bellarmino Alumni Mothers Extended Network

March 3, 2026



## Mar 3 forecast for ZIP Code 95126

This Afternoon: Sunny 69°; Wednesday: Mostly Sunny 65°; Thursday: Sunny 66° [\[click for current weather\]](#)



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## A.M.E.N. Monthly Newsletter

March 2, 2026

### *President's Message*

Dear Bellarmine Alumni Moms,

Now that we are in the month of March, the arrival of spring brings a welcome sense of renewal and momentum to our Alumni Mothers Extended Network (AMEN) community. This season always feels like an invitation to reconnect, reach outward, and enjoy time together—and I'm grateful for the many ways our alumni mothers continue to do just that.

Over the next couple of months, we're excited to gather socially and in service. Please see below for details about our upcoming social at Hapa's in Willow Glen on March 12th, where we look forward to an evening of conversation and connection. We also invite you to join us for a couple hours for our service activity on April 1st with Second Harvest Food Bank, an opportunity to come together in support of our broader community. And be sure to mark your calendar for our Spring Dinner on April 30th, a special evening we hope you will share with us.

Thank you for being such an important part of AMEN. Your presence, energy, and support help make this community so meaningful. I look forward to seeing many of you in the coming weeks.

Warmly,

Julie Paulsen  
Chair, Bellarmine Alumni Mothers Extended Network (AMEN)

## Upcoming Events

### Spring Dinner - April 30th



# Save the Date

## AMEN SPRING DINNER

APRIL 30, 2026

BELLARMINE COLLEGE PREP

### **AMEN Second Annual Spring Service Project Wednesday, April 1st from 1:30-3:30 🍁❤️**

Looking for a meaningful way to give back this Easter 2026? ✨ Join AMEN as we come together to serve our community and share some kindness where it's needed most. Second Harvest of Silicon Valley supports an average of 500,000 people every month, helping individuals and families in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties access healthy, nourishing food. ❤️

On Wednesday, April 1, 2026, AMEN members are invited to volunteer at Second Harvest's Cypress Center for a food sorting shift from 1:30–3:30 PM. The Cypress Center is located at 4001 N 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95134. Volunteers will assist with preparing food for distribution by checking, sorting, labeling, and repacking items 📦🥕. A brief training is provided at the start of the shift, so no prior experience is required. Each participant must register individually to secure a spot. To see the work in action, check out this [video](#).

**Individual registration:** Each group member [must register individually here](#). **Reservation ID:** GR-36990.

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Abene at 408-656-1399 or [wow123@me.com](mailto:wow123@me.com) 📧 We hope you'll join us in making a positive difference for neighbors in our community who are experiencing food insecurity. We'd love to volunteer alongside you!

🌟 Michelle Abene, Spring Service Coordinator 🍌

### **Pickleball 9am on Mondays**

Hello from the AMEN Pickleball group!



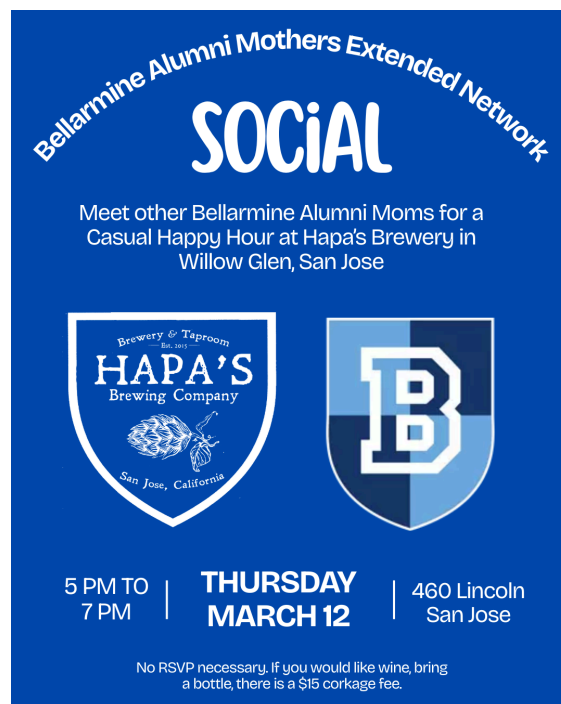
We continue to meet up on the second and fourth Monday mornings at 9 at the new, netted courts near the SAP Center (Arena Green). You can find some free parking near Henry's High Life Restaurant in downtown San Jose.

We welcome new and experienced players! For those that don't quite know the rules, we'll take a court and bring you up to speed. And for others, we have a good group of regulars and have fun and challenging play!

Come on out and bring a friend! Contact us with questions or to be added to the distribution list. Mary ([cookiefisher08@gmail.com](mailto:cookiefisher08@gmail.com)) Liz ([eapage3@gmail.com](mailto:eapage3@gmail.com))

### **Thirsty Thursday - back by popular demand! March 12th at 5pm**

Meet other A.M.E.N. moms for a casual Happy Hour at [Hapa's Brewery](#), 460 Lincoln Avenue on Thursday, **March 12th from 5 - 7pm.**



### **Wine Tasting at Testarossa on March 19th at 3pm**

Join us under the redwoods at Testarossa Winery (Los Gatos) for a relaxed afternoon of great wine and good company! The tasting is complimentary (a \$25 value). Please bring \$5 cash for a tip. If you'd like to join us, please email Michelle at [wow123@me.com](mailto:wow123@me.com) to be added to the invite list. We'd love for you to come and enjoy some great wine with us!

### **The Little Book Club meeting on March 9th at Rosemary Mayle's home at 7pm**

We call ourselves the Little Book Club as we only have 3 members and are open to have more join us. We meet on the second Monday of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 /8:30. We rotate meeting at each others homes. We discuss the book we have read and then choose one for the following month.

If anyone is interested please contact Diane Danen at [dianedanen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianedanen@sbcglobal.net) or text/call at 408 410-9194 for further details.

### **A.M.E.N./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](mailto:ashleychp66@gmail.com).

March 21st: 5 mile hike at Mt Diablo

April Hike: Coyote Valley Open

May Hike: Joseph Grant County Park

### **A.M.E.N. Needlepoint Group**

Needlepoint News - [Grannie hobbies are so in!](#)

Just stitch, **Saturday, March 28th from 2 - 4 pm** at the home of Maria von Massenhause in Willow Glen

### **Ski Club**

We're looking for intermediate and advanced skiers who want to enjoy fun day trips and extended adventures on the slopes, tearing it up together! When you contact us, let us know what kind of season pass you have (Ikon, Epic, or other) so we can plan groups based on memberships. Let's hit the mountains together for an unforgettable ski season! If you're interested in joining, please reach out to Michelle at 408-656-1399.

### **New! Social Admin Night Out**

Have you heard of the new Social Admin Night Out, a.k.a. Productivity Party? With the support and company of our AMEN friends, let's tackle our to-do lists. Bring your computer and get your tax documents in order. Work on those handwritten thank-you notes you've been meaning to finish. Forgive yourself for not finding those lost dogs' owners and delete the NextDoor emails. The craft project that seemed like a good idea when you started it is not going to finish itself. Bring it! We'll have fun while getting stuff done! We are looking to gauge interest in starting up an AMEN Social Admin Group. If you are interested, have ideas, or would like to help organize the group, please contact Lisa Ruder @ [lisa@ruders.org](mailto:lisa@ruders.org).

**Are you interested in joining the A.M.E.N Board? Contact current chair, Julie Paulsen at [juliehpaulsen@gmail.com](mailto:juliehpaulsen@gmail.com)**

## **BCP Events & Activities**

### **Bellarmino Golden Bell Auction: March 14th**



Visit the Golden Bell [website](#) for more information

## Winter Theater Production: The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Performance Dates: March 6th, 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th & 14th. Tickets go on sale mid February

## Bellarmino 175th Anniversary Celebration: May 9th

Celebrate Bellarmine's 175th anniversary at the **Bell-A-Palooza** - celebrating 175 years of the Bellarmine Tradition, Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Bellarmine Campus.

# Join an Interest Group!

Hiking? Baking? Reading? Golfing? There is a group for you! **Below is a list of the A.M.E.N. Interest Groups along with the contact person.** Remember to renew your AMEN membership before joining an interest group! Contact Maggie Pecoraro at [jammpec@yahoo.com](mailto:jammpec@yahoo.com), for more information or if you would like to start your own group.

**Book Clubs:** We have 5 active Book Clubs! See below for the contact information.

**College Mentoring is looking for a new lead! Contact Maggie Pecoraro** ([jammpec@yahoo.com](mailto:jammpec@yahoo.com)) **if you are interested:** This group connects graduating BCP students and their families with families who have had sons (or daughters) attend the college or university they are considering. Lead by Susan Munne, [susan.munne@gmail.com](mailto:susan.munne@gmail.com).

**Community Volunteers/Helping Hands:** Led by Linda Chin, [chindalin@aol.com](mailto:chindalin@aol.com)

**Elderly Parents Support Group:** providing an opportunity for us to seek advice and vent our frustrations. Topics include but are not limited to: Fall prevention. What to do when our parents are hospitalized? How to choose a rehabilitation center? What are the differences between home health agencies and home care companies? How to choose between Palliative and Hospice care? Contact Alice Ng, OTR/L, [otaliceng@gmail.com](mailto:otaliceng@gmail.com) or 650-255-1838.

**Gardening Group:** Led by Lisa Christensen & Teresa Giovanzana, [lisa95008@gmail.com](mailto:lisa95008@gmail.com)

**Golf Group:** Led by Catherine Christofferson, [catherine@icreatemovies.com](mailto:catherine@icreatemovies.com).

**Gourmet Groups:** Each group has 4 cook teams of 4 women each, for a total of 16 women in each Gourmet group, rotating hosting duties amongst all members. Gourmet skills are not required! If there are multiple women on a waiting list, the next member is chosen by blind lottery.

The Wednesday group meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. To be added to the wait list, email Jody Knauf, [jodyknauf@gmail.com](mailto:jodyknauf@gmail.com)

The Saturday group meets the first Saturday of the month. To be added to the wait list, email Betsy Leff, [bleff75@gmail.com](mailto:bleff75@gmail.com)

**Hiking Group:** Meets Monday mornings at 8:15, locations vary. Led by Teresa Giovanzana, [teresagiovanzana@comcast.net](mailto:teresagiovanzana@comcast.net).

**Mahjong Group:** Led by Nancy Janda and and Bik Wah, [calpolyglot@aol.com](mailto:calpolyglot@aol.com).

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

**Needlepoint Group:** All levels welcome! Led by Maria von Massenhausen, [mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com](mailto:mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com).

**Pickleball Group:** Led by Liz Page and Mary Lavelle, [cookiefisher08@gmail.com](mailto:cookiefisher08@gmail.com)

**Ski Club:** Led by Michelle Abene, [wow123@me.com](mailto:wow123@me.com)

**Spirituality Group:** Changing format and will meet 1X per month now. Led by Sarah Bonini, [sarahjbonini@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjbonini@gmail.com).

**Wine Tasting:** *Meet at Testarossa for private wine tasting and charcuterie. Dates TBD. Led by Michelle Abene, [wow123@me.com](mailto:wow123@me.com)*

**Book Clubs:** To join one of our many Book Clubs, email Maggie Pecoraro, [jammpec@yahoo.com](mailto:jammpec@yahoo.com)

## Renew Your A.M.E.N. Membership

It's a new year! AMEN is an opportunity to come together in fellowship - a time to come together in friendship- new and old.

As a member, you'll have access to:

- **Fun & friendship** through interest groups like Hiking, Golf, Book Club, and Wine Tasting
- **Spiritual growth** through A.M.E.N. retreats and prayer opportunities
- **Service projects** that make a difference in our community
- **Connection** to a network of amazing women who share a meaningful bond

Recommended membership fee is \$25. Memberships must be renewed annually to enjoy all the benefits. Please [click here](#) to join now!

AMEN supports itself through membership donations, the Fall and Spring Dinners, and purchases from our online store. Any funds left over at the end of year are donated to support our Bellarmine students.

# Go Bells!



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

