

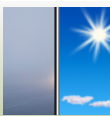
Bellarmine Alumni Mothers Extended Network

April 7, 2026



Apr 7 forecast for ZIP Code 95126

Today: Patchy Fog then Sunny 75°; Wednesday:
Patchy Fog then Sunny 79°; Thursday: Slight Chance
Light Rain 75° [[click for current weather](#)]



This email served by
GROUPvine

Email for communities
and their groups!

[Learn more](#)

[About the ads](#)

A.M.E.N. Monthly Newsletter

April 7, 2026

President's Message

Dear Bellarmine Alumni Moms,

April is a time of energy and gathering—a point in the year when our calendars fill, the days grow longer, and opportunities to be together feel especially meaningful. Within Alumni Mother's Extended Network (AMEN), this season reflects the very heart of what we do: connection, community, and shared experience.

Over the past months, it has been wonderful to see so many of you show up for one another and for the broader community. From casual conversations to moments of service like we recently had at Second Harvest Food Bank, each interaction strengthens the spirit that makes this group so special.

As we look ahead, I'm especially excited for our Spring Dinner on April 30th. It promises to be a memorable evening to experience the beautiful campus, hear from inspiring speakers, celebrate friendships, and simply enjoy time together. I hope you'll join us for one of the highlights of the year.

Thank you for being part of Bellarmine's Alumni Mother's Extended Network (AMEN) and for the many ways you contribute to its warmth and vitality. I look forward to seeing you soon and continuing to build on the connections that mean so much to all of us.

With appreciation,

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

Upcoming Events

Spring Dinner - April 30th

Join us for the A.M.E.N. Spring Dinner



ALUMNI MOTHERS EXTENDED NETWORK

presents our

ANNUAL SPRING DINNER

"Rooted in Friendship"

APRIL 30, 2026

Featuring keynote speaker

Dr. Sonya Arriola, Bellarmine's Chief of Staff

Social hour begins at 6 PM on the Moley Family Quad

Light appetizers and drinks will be served

Dinner begins at 7PM in Licardo

REGISTER HERE

Tickets include drinks, appetizers and dinner.

Raffle tickets for Spring Centerpieces are available for purchase at the event.

Tickets are:

\$45 for dinner (member price)

\$55 for non members

\$70 for dinner and 2026-2027 membership

For more information contact Shannon Collins-Tassi or Maris Whitney

Gardening Group: GAMBLE GARDEN SPRING TOUR 2026: April 24th

Please join the AMEN Gardening Group for the Annual Gamble Garden Spring Tour on Friday, April 24th.

Tour a collection of four private gardens and the 5-acre estate of Elizabeth Gamble Estate and Garden in the Palo Alto area. The Gamble Garden property will host the On-Site marketplace which includes the vendor marketplace, Over the Garden Fence Sale (vintage and second-hand home and garden items), horticultural demonstrations, tea and cookies, and a plant sale.

Meet the AMEN Gardening Group at 10am in front of the estate mansion where we may walk together in small groups. Lunch can be purchased from Gamble Garden, or you may bring a lunch. Tables and chairs in shade are available for lunch. If you plan on attending, please buy your own ticket at the following link: <https://www.gamblegarden.org/spring-tour/spring-tour-2026/>

RSVP AND QUESTIONS: Contact Lisa Christensen at: lisa95008@gmail.com

COST: \$45.00 for non-members

\$35.00 for members

ON-SITE MARKET PLACE: \$10.00

LUNCH: Boxed lunch available to purchase or you can bring your own bagged lunch.

LOGISTICS: Wear comfortable walking shoes, wear sunscreen, if necessary, wear a hat, and bring water to drink



Pickleball 9am on Mondays

Greetings from AMEN Pickleball!!



We continue to meet on the second and fourth Tuesday each month at 9 am at Arena Green! We welcome new and experienced players. For new players, we'll break off to a separate court and teach you the basics. Come join us! Liz and Mary

Contact us with questions or to be added to the distribution list. Mary (cookiefisher08@gmail.com) Liz (eapage3@gmail.com)

Wine Tasting at Testarosa



Bellarmine AMEN moms gathered in March for a fun and relaxed wine tasting at Testarossa Winery. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect, share stories, and enjoy time together in a beautiful setting. Events like these are a great way to meet other Bellarmine moms and build lasting friendships. We'd love for you to join us at the next gathering in April.

Contact Michelle at 408-656-1399 to get on our invitation list.

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.

April 11th: Coyote Valley Open
May Hike: Joseph Grant County Park

Cabbage, Community & Lots of Laughs 🌿💚



Our group had a fantastic time volunteering at [Second Harvest of Silicon Valley](#)'s Cypress Center in [San Jose](#)—and yes, we spent the afternoon sorting cabbage!

Between laughs, teamwork, and a little friendly debate over “perfect” cabbage, our AMEN group helped sort 7,740 pounds of fresh produce for families in need across our community. It was simple work—but incredibly meaningful.

A great reminder: a few hours + good people = real impact.

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.

Are you interested in joining the A.M.E.N Board? Contact current chair, Julie Paulsen at juliehpaulsen@gmail.com



BCP Events & Activities

A 175th Anniversary Celebration at Bellarmine College Preparatory

Bellarmino 175th Anniversary Celebration: May 9th

Calling all Bells – past, present and future – along with families and friends of the school: **you're invited.**

To celebrate 175 years since our founding as the oldest secondary school in California, we're throwing a party you won't want to miss! Join us on **Saturday, May 9th, from 3 to 7 p.m. for the first-ever Bell-a-Palooza:** a carnival-esque community celebration filled with music, food, fun, and endless Bell pride!

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, 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) **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. Led by Susan Munne, susan.munne@gmail.com.

Community Volunteers/Helping Hands: Led by Linda Chin, 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 or 650-255-1838.

Gardening Group: Led by Lisa Christensen & Teresa Giovanzana, lisa95008@gmail.com

Golf Group: Led by Catherine Christofferson, 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

The Saturday group meets the first Saturday of the month. To be added to the wait list, email Betsy Leff, bleff75@gmail.com

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

Mahjong Group: Led by Nancy Janda and and Bik Wah, 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.

Needlepoint Group: All levels welcome! Led by Maria von Massenhausen, mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com.

Pickleball Group: Led by Liz Page and Mary Lavelle, cookiefisher08@gmail.com

Ski Club: Led by Michelle Abene, wow123@me.com

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

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

Book Clubs: To join one of our many Book Clubs, email Maggie Pecoraro, jammpec@yahoo.com

Go Bells!



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

