



Sep 6 forecast for ZIP Code 95126

This Afternoon: Sunny 91°; Saturday: Sunny 87°;
Sunday: Sunny 87° [[click for current weather](#)]



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AMEN Monthly Newsletter

September 6, 2024

President's Message

ONCE A BELL (MOM).....ALWAYS A BELL (MOM)!

Hello Bellarmine Alumni Moms!

Welcome to another year of Alumni Mothers Extended Network (AMEN)! I cannot believe Fall is upon us. I hope everyone had a nice summer, with the chance to be with family and friends or had the opportunity to travel and have sunny days, full of adventure!

We are all part of this very special community, as mothers of boys that Bellarmine has turned into Men, for and with others. And as part of this community, AMEN strives to offer a way for us to continue to stay connected to each other and to Bellarmine itself.

I feel blessed and lucky to be working with a special group of women on the Steering Committee this year and I want to thank the entire committee for already working on getting the year ahead organized for the many activities and events we have planned.

Whether you are a seasoned veteran of AMEN, or a new member, we will have something for everyone! Our Interest Groups are up and running with all sorts of different options from Needlepoint to Pickleball and everything in between. We will have social events, spiritual events and service activities. We will have our Fall Dinner in October and a Spring Dinner in April.

I hope you all take the time to read our monthly newsletter so you can find where you fit, because we all belong to this amazing family..... once a Bell (Mom), always a Bell (Mom)! I look forward to seeing you or meeting you soon!

GO BELLS!
Gigi Harvey

Chair, AMEN Steering Committee



Renew Your AMEN Membership

Now is the time to renew and join AMEN! Take advantage of all that a full membership has to offer: participation in interest groups; discounts on fall and spring dinners and more! When you join today, your membership will be effective now until June 2025!

As a member of AMEN, you can stay connected to an amazing and supportive **in-person social network**. We are a community of over 250 women who are united by a common bond of motherhood and friendship.

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.

Get involved!

Join an Interest Group or two!

Hiking? Baking? Reading? Golfing? There is a group for you! **Sign up for an interest group with this FORM** (or use the QR code below) 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.

Pickleball Group: Lead by Leah Schnoor, leahschnoor@gmail.com. *Looking for someone to help co-chair.*

Gardening Group: Lead by Lisa Christensen & Teresa Giovanzana. lisa95008@gmail.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! 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.

Needlepoint Group: Our first meeting is 9/27 from 3-5pm at Maria's house. Lead by Maria von Massenhausen, mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com.

Mahjong Group: Lead by Rose Simon, simon143@comcast.net and and Bik Wah, calpolyqlot@aol.com. NEW: Meetings will start up in October on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month from 2-4pm in O'Donnell 205.

AMEN College Mentoring: connecting 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.

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

Elderly Parents Support Group: The Nest - Now that our children are out of the nest, we find ourselves returning to our old nest to care for our parents. It comes a full cycle. Just when we thought we learned everything from our parents when we left our/their house, we are learning from them again in their aging years. How to journey with them proactively instead of reactively? How can they age with safety and grace? Will I be like them when I grow old?

The Elderly Parents Support Group is meant to provide 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.

Fall AMEN Highlights

Needlepoint Meeting

Join the Needlepoint Group for a Sip & Stitch.
Make progress on an old project or learn a new hobby!

Friday, September 27th, 3-5 pm
Contact Maria von Massenhausen at
mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com if you are interested.
All levels are welcome!



Wine Tasting

This year, we're excited to announce that we'll be hosting monthly wine tastings at Testarossa in Los Gatos and other local wineries. The first eight people to RSVP for each event can join for free, as it's covered by my wine tasting membership. All we ask is that you tip the server and bring a little gratitude. I hope you can make it—it's a great opportunity to connect! More details and dates will be shared soon.
Contact Michelle Abene, wow123@me.com



Fall Service Project: Second Harvest Food Bank

Seeking to give this Fall Season? AMEN's Second Annual Food Sort with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley is coming in November, a date TBD. Food sorting will be at the Brennan Warehouse, 521 Brennan Street, San Jose. Food Sorters help prepare food for distribution by verifying, sorting, labeling, and repacking food items. Second Harvest provides food on average to 500,000 people a month in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. Last November AMEN Members, along with fellow community members, sorted 13,179 pounds of food! It is a day of giving filled with much reward and appreciation. Keep an eye out for further details. For more information, contact Sylvia Seidel, sbseidel@icloud.com and Michele Abene, wow123@me.com



Save the Date



FALL DINNER
Thursday, October 17

Tickets Available Soon

Come join us! Our alumni mother's extended network (AMEN) is hosting our annual Fall Dinner on Thursday, October 17 in the Liccardo Center. Reconnect with old friends, meet new friends, and learn how you can stay connected to the Bellarmine family! In addition to socializing with friends, you can learn about and join our Interest Groups and purchase unique Bellarmine items at AMEN's gift and pop-up shop.

The fun begins at 6:00 pm starting with a social hour and ending with a seated dinner. Cost to attend is \$40 – includes drinks, dinner, and dessert. Sign up here. We hope you can join us, your event co-chairs Maris Whitney, whitney121063@sbcglobal.net and Julie Paulsen, julie.paulsen@earthlink.net

Get Your Gear at the Fall Dinner

We'll be selling our exclusive AMEN merchandise at the AMEN Fall Dinner on October 17th. Stop by to shop and catch up with friends! Can't make it? Here is our online order form. Items can be picked up at the reception of Mathewson Hall at Bellarmine campus.

If you have any questions, please contact Yoyi Franco, yoyifrancolaw@gmail.com or Wendy Anna Herby, wendyherby@gmail.com.



Bellarmino Mothers' Guild 70th Annual Fashion Show: November 16th



Visit the Fashion Show [website](#) for more information.



Get involved! Join an Interest 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

