



AMEN NEWS

Connections

Letter from AMEN Chair

BETSY NOONEN

GRATEFUL:

- For AMEN friendships during a really tough time
- For all the time and energy our board
- The Angel Fund
- Women for Others
- Connections over Zoom —yes, I am
- New members this year
- Members who renewed this year
- Getting this newsletter in my inbox
- And for you reading this now...

Dear AMEN,

Grateful. We find our inspiration in many places, our families, nature, church and the arts to name a few. The connections that we make as part of the Bellarmine community and AMEN have sustained me in many ways and I am so appreciative for these bright spots as we enter into this holiday season. Thanksgiving is frequently cited as a favorite holiday because of the community and family traditions it inspires that are uniquely American and of course the pie, I mean the Thanksgiving meal! It's a favorite holiday for me, and although our Thanksgiving table will not have as many guests as other years, it will be full.

Please take a moment to look inward and share the compassion you have shown for so many to direct it toward yourself. There are still challenges ahead and we can only help others when we help ourselves. It's the start of what is usually a busy time and we are well aware of the "bonus" challenges 2020 has provided.

As this newsletter is being prepared, Santa Clara County is in a less restricted zone per CDC guidance on the virus. Given that, some Social Circle leads have been discussing organizing pop-up events that will occur on a relative short notice. This way, we can be sure to know that the weather will be cooperating for outdoor enjoyment of the activity, be it a "wine walk" to look at holiday lights, a happy hour or coffee meet up in a public spot. Look for these pop-up events through an AMEN email blast. The overall result of the survey from last month revealed that our membership is split about 50/50 on whether or not they are ready to gather together. So, we will operate on those assumptions.

I hope that you have a fabulous and safe Thanksgiving. With love and patience! Please, let's keep the connections! Betsy

*"Watch, now, how I start the day
in happiness, in kindness"*

- Mary Oliver

Connections

The 66th Annual Bellarmine Mothers' Guild Fashion Show

MARILYN RITCHIE – FASHION SHOW COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR



SEEING THE PAST BECOME THE FUTURE

Make plans to get cozy on the couch with your social bubble for the perfect autumn evening streaming the Fashion Show! Despite the pandemic, the Bellarmine Mothers' Guild continues its streak producing the Bay Area's longest-running fashion show. The 66th Annual Bellarmine Mothers' Guild Fashion Show is coming up on Saturday, November 14 at 8 pm! Good news: Your ticket purchase is 100% tax deductible.

With a theme of 2020 Vision: Seeing the Past Become the Future, the virtual extravaganza will feature student, parent, faculty models and dancers live on the runway from the Bellarmine campus in a socially distant "fashion." It may not be the usual event, but the show's online format guarantees everyone has a virtual front-row seat — while keeping our Bellarmine Community safe.

Models were selected for the event via an outdoor, socially distanced casting call that saw a fantastic response on September 27. The tryout was overseen by celebrity judges with a variety of runway and TV experience, and an agent from Look Model Agency.



Senior models on the first day of rehearsal Oct. 18

Fashion partners featured in the show include Bloomingdale's Valley Fair, Zadig & Voltaire, Ted Baker, and Tamara Mellon among others.



Join us as we raise funds for Bellarmine College Preparatory's
Direct Tuition Assistance & Tuition Assistance Endowment.

DID YOU KNOW? THIS ACADEMIC YEAR...

- Bellarmine anticipates that the financial impact of the pandemic will result in an unbudgeted increase of \$500,000 in additional need for tuition assistance - a 20% increase over last year.
- More than 25% of Bellarmine students receive tuition assistance - about one of every four students.
- 32% of students who receive tuition assistance this year are the first generation in their families expected to attend college.



*Thank you for supporting
The 66th Annual Bellarmine Mothers' Guild Fashion Show for
Direct Tuition Assistance & Tuition Assistance Endowment*



Fashion show chair Caroline Stratz (left)
And BMG president Kelly Rainey (right)

We are delighted friends, relatives and alumni from near and far will have the opportunity to see this year's show. Please forward show information to them - or consider purchasing access on their behalf. Don't miss out on this beloved Bellarmine tradition!

Purchase live stream show tickets for \$100 and explore other ways to support the show at:

<https://www.bcp.org/fashionshow>

Connections

Offices of Campus Ministry & Advancement

MISSY SCOTT-FLOREZ



In the Catholic tradition, November is the "Month of the Holy Souls." Throughout the month of November, the Bellarmine Community will pray for the souls of all those who have passed on from this life. Our Jesuit community will be streaming a weekly mass every Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

[LIVE STREAMS OF MASS](#)

As we near the season of thanks, we are grateful that you and your family are a part of our Bellarmine family!

Missy Scott-Florez
Director of Campus Ministry

Interviews from AMEN Social Circles

Connecting AMEN Circles, Nourishing Our Spirit and Soul

SARAH BONINI & GIGI HARVEY

with collaborations from TERESA GIOVANZANA, Chair of the Hiking Social Circle

Welcome back to our monthly Spirituality and Wellness article!

This month we spoke with Teresa Giovanzana, Chair of the Hiking Social Circle. The hiking circle meets weekly on Mondays throughout the year at a variety of open space parks in Santa Clara County, such as Almaden Quicksilver, Los Gatos Creek Trail, Santa Teresa County Park, Fremont Older, and San Antonio Regional Park.

Why did you join AMEN?

My only child, Domenic, graduated from Bellarmine in 2015 and chose to attend college at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth Texas. I just knew I was going to have a real hard time adjusting to living in “the empty nest.” I needed a plan....a plan to keep my mind, body, and social life busy! Joining AMEN was a large part of my plan. I joined AMEN the spring my son graduated at the Spring Dinner and attended the Fall Dinner in October where I signed up for Social Circle that interested me. I learned that one of the Social Circles was in need of a new coordinator – so I volunteered for that position. There is no other way to immerse yourself than to volunteer!

What is your Social Circle?

The first Social Circle I volunteered to coordinate (and still do) is the Hiking Circle. Year-round, I meet a group of women on Monday mornings at various county parks in the Santa Clara Valley. We hike about 5+ miles in the mountains. The community I share with these women is awesome! They are strong, both mentally and physically, and they were an antidote for an “empty nest” mom six years ago! I love my lady hikers and the time I spend with them! A few years ago Lisa Christensen and myself restarted the Gardening Circle. Quickly our circle roster filled with like-minded gardening enthusiasts! We have attended workshops, garden tours, and demonstrations together as well as had a garden party! The Gardening Circle is a well of creative activity for Lisa and me, and I love the time I share with her.



How does AMEN fulfill you?

AMEN has been a connection that has provided me support, friendship, community, love, and a venue of volunteerism that directly benefits me, and all the lovely women I have met through Bellarmine and AMEN. In addition, our donations and volunteering benefit Bellarmine and the greater community. I actively belong to other circles too, where I continue to meet fabulous women and have a lot of fun! It is true...the more you get involved the more fun you will have! Four years ago I joined the Steering Committee where I held the Social Circle Chair position for two years and then held the Chair position for one year. Being on the AMEN Board was greatly rewarding. I am very proud of the board's accomplishments during those years.

What does Spirituality and Wellness mean to you?

I am a Catholic Christian and have been so my entire life. For me, I define my spirituality as the relationship I have with God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, which dwells within me. How I nurture and feed this Trinity determines my wellness. My personal spirituality and wellness are fed in many ways such as in quiet, contemplative prayer, attending Mass and receiving the Holy Eucharist, communing with nature in all its forms, listening to the birds in the stillness of the morning, in the many creative activities that I undertake, giving myself to others, and in the love I experience with my family and friends.

How does your social circle nourish your spirituality and/or wellness?

With the two Social Circles that I coordinate, as well as all the Social Circles I participate in, I find an amazing community of women that truly leave me in awe. What I receive from the women of AMEN is immeasurable and a true blessing. Joining AMEN six years ago has been one of the best things I could have done for myself at that time.

What is your favorite hike?

Calero Lake County Park is my favorite hike.



If anyone is interested in joining the hiking social circle, please contact Teresa at:

teresagiovanzana@comcast.net

Updates from AMEN Social Circles

AMEN Gardening Circle Special Holiday Craft

LISA CHRISTENSEN & TERESA GIOVANZANA



HOLIDAY AIR PLANT TERRARIUM WORKSHOP

Please join the Gardening Group on Saturday, December 5th at 10am, for a hands-on holiday craft workshop. The workshop will demonstrate how to create an air plant terrarium in an apothecary jar or similar glass vessel. The workshop will be taught through a Zoom call with all participants eagerly at home with their pre-purchased air plants, vessels, and design supplies on-hand. Each workshop participant will receive a supply list prior to the workshop where they can gather all supplies.

GET CREATIVE! Much of the supplies needed can be found on hikes, at the beach, or repurposed from home. Have fun gathering all the wonderful items. It will be a lot of fun to create the air plant terrarium and beautiful to display in your home or give as a gift. We hope you can join us! Please email Lisa Christensen at: lisa95008@gmail.com to sign up!

AMEN Daytime Movie - Virtual Coffee

PAT GRAY

The Daytime Movie Social Circle will continue to meet for coffee via Zoom. Our meeting in October was well attended. Our next coffee hour is Monday, November 16, 10:30-11:30 am. Contact Pat Gray (pat@patgrayincolor.com) for the Zoom link and password.



AMEN Hiking Circle

TERESA GIOVANZANA

The Monday Morning Hiking Circle returns! Due to Covid guidelines, the circle will be exploring different locations including Santa Teresa, Calero Lake, Bear Creek Redwoods, and the beach.

SOCIAL DISTANCING HIKING GUIDELINES FOR AMEN HIKING SOCIAL CIRCLE:

- Everyone must bring a mask and wear it when necessary
- Everyone will walk 6' apart
- When passing other hikers masks are worn and hike in single file

Hikes meet at a pre-determined location every Monday at 8:15am and leave promptly at 8:20am. Hiking Circle Coordinator, Teresa Giovanzana will email the group the weekend prior with directions and specifics for each hike.

If interested in joining the Hiking Circle please contact: teresagiovanzana@comcast.net



AMEN Golf Circle

CATHERINE CHRISTOFFERSON



The golf group meets the first of each month. Our tee times are usually around 9:45-10:00am at Pruneridge Golf Course. If anyone would like to join please email

[Catherine Christofferson](mailto:Catherine.Christofferson)

Virtual Connections

AMEN Website	https://www.bcp.org/amen
AMEN Membership	https://www.bcp.org/amen/membership
AMEN Social Circles	https://www.bcp.org/amen/socialcircles
The Angel Fund	Donate
AMEN Merchandise	https://www.bcp.org/amen/fundraising
AMEN Facebook Group	https://www.facebook.com/groups/663667830385009/about/

Enter to Win! Wine Tasting Spanish Style

BETSY NOONEN & AMEN BOARD

Since we can't fly off for a vacation in Spain, we thought we would bring a little Spain to you. AMEN is raffling a basket of amazing Spanish wines and tapas, perfect for you! These delicious wine and goodies could be yours for a \$25.00 donation to The Angel Fund. Your name (in Spanish no less) will be drawn during live Zoom on December 1st. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Also included in the basket are stemless Bellarmine wine glasses and two fashionable Bellarmine logo masks! Not pictured here. Look for an email with the link to enter.

AMEN's Angel Fund supports the entire Bellarmine Community of students, faculty and administration in their time of crisis and immediate need. It is entirely supported through your donations.





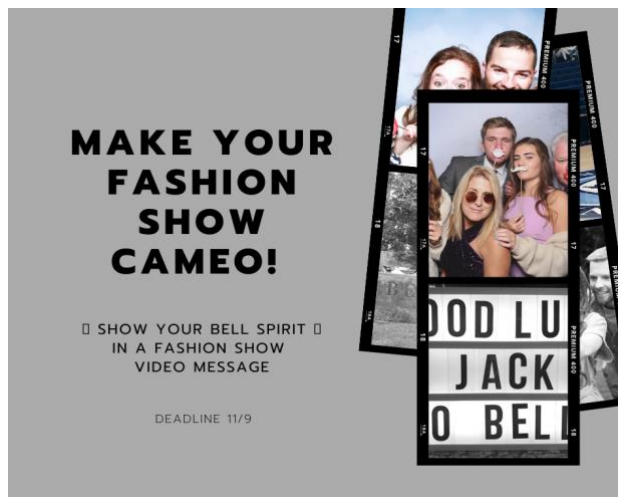
BELL NEWS

66th Annual BMG Fashion Show Make a Cameo Appearance

DON'T MISS YOUR CAMEO! The fashion show is offering video Shout Out messages featured in the show and in our online program. It's a great way to say good luck...recall your favorite Bell memory...or exclaim "Go Bells!". Just pull out your phone and record! Message limited to ten seconds; please adhere to Bellarmine standards. Cost is \$25 to be included in either the show or program; \$40 for both.

Payment accepted at

<https://bellarmine.ejoinme.org/.../ShoutOutMessages/tabid/119...>



Bellarmino Ranked Among the Best All-Boys Schools in California

Bellarmino College Preparatory has achieved the rank of #1 in Best All-Boys High Schools in California by NICHE.



The NICHE 2021 Best All-Boys High Schools ranking is based on rigorous analysis of key statistics and millions of reviews from students and parents. Ranking factors include SAT/ACT scores, the quality of colleges that students consider, student-teacher ratio, private school ratings, etc. with data sourced from the U.S. Department of Education, Niche users, and the schools directly.

Bellarmino received an overall grade of A+, inclusive of high marks in the areas of academics, teachers, clubs and activities, diversity, college prep, and sports.



BELL NEWS

Nate Sutton '00 New Baseball Coach



Bellarmino College Preparatory is excited to announce that Nate Sutton '00 will be the head of program for Varsity Baseball.

After his days at Bellarmine, Nate went on to play Division 1 baseball at the University of California, Santa Barbara. At UCSB, Nate was a two-time team Captain, a team MVP his senior season, and named to the UCSB All-Decade team.

For the past eight years Coach Sutton has served in a variety of roles in the Bellarmine Baseball program under former head coach Mike Rodriguez. These roles have ranged from JV head coach, Varsity assistant coach, and interim Varsity head coach. Combined with his prior experience as a student athlete at Bellarmine, Nate has intimate knowledge and experience within the Baseball program at Bellarmine.

Bellarmino Hosts 33rd Annual Golf Classic

On Monday, October 12th, the Bellarmine Alumni Office hosted the 33rd annual BCP Golf Classic on a gorgeous day at Cinnabar Hills Golf Club. County regulations shifted the traditional shotgun start into a full day of tee times, but the health guidelines did not deter 160 alumni, parents and friends of Bellarmine from enjoying a day of socially-distant fun and camaraderie on the golf course in support Direct Tuition Assistance. There was even an appearance by, Fr. Dick Cobb, S.J. and Fr. Jerry Wade, S.J. pictured below.

For the third straight year, there was a tie first first place with two teams posting scores of 55 (17 under par) in the scramble tournament.

The 2020 championship went to the foursome of Pete Boggini '81, Paul Boggini '83, Jake Mendes '83 and Bob Leininger '63!

