



# AMEN NEWS

## Connections

### Letter from the AMEN Chair

JULIE HUGHES

Dear AMEN Angels,

Holy cannoli! I cannot believe that this past year is coming to an end. And what an amazing year it has been. I am so grateful to have had the honor to be the chair of such an incredible group of women. Every month, each event I attended, I learned something new, had the pleasure of meeting someone I had never met and a few times, challenged myself by putting myself out of my comfort zone. Trifecta!

This culmination of this wonderful year was recently celebrated with our annual **Spring Dinner**. Bev Bonovich and Heidi Burke hit it out of the park by creating such a magical evening for the over 85 members and new to graduate moms that attended. It was such a beautiful, memorable and fun event. It truly warmed my heart to see so many of your beautiful smiles on the porch, *April 26<sup>th</sup>*. AMEN is enhanced and strengthened by the incredible relationships we might have begun while our sons were in high school but this group definitely becomes more special as these relationships continue to be nurtured and fed. We are all so fortunate for the friendships, happiness and fulfillment that is wonderful group brings to each of us. I am filled with gratitude for all of you and the bright light you bring to our AMEN group.

Although our main focus is not on fundraising, but on fun – we still found a way to raise a significant chunk for our Angel Fund this year that will go to support the Magis Scholars- those boys who are on full tuition support. Our efforts will assist them in a seamless way to get funds for text books, bus or train passes, sports participation, retreats, immersion trips, theatre productions – all the campus life events that make up four years at Bellarmine. Believe it or not, it looks like we will be contributing close to \$10K dollars this year! Thank you to all of you! Your contributions are acknowledged with much love and appreciation!

Many of our social circles will continue to meet during the summer in the event you find yourself looking to play pickleball, play some golf, see a movie, visit a new hiking location, etc. Check out [bcp.org/AMEN](http://bcp.org/AMEN) for more information.

I wish all of you a wonderful summer full of fun adventures, sunny days and moments that make you smile!

XXOO  
Julie



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## AMEN SPRING DINNER APRIL 26, 2022

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### One Enchanted Evening

HEIDI BURKE

Julie Hughes hosted such a fabulous time at the Spring Dinner. It was great to rekindle friendships and meet new members. The evening started with wine and mingling. All the guests had a chance to buy raffle tickets for baskets donated by the Pickleball Players, The Wednesday Gourmet Group, The Baking Group and The Dirty Dozen Book Club.

[AMEN merchandise](#) was for sale hosted by Lisa Christiansen. Anyone wanting [to join a Social Circles](#) had the chance to speak with Kathy Armistead and sign up. Provided links above in case anyone missed it!

We headed up to the Liccardo balcony for a sit down dinner of Chicken and Lemon Orzo Pasta. Father Wade joined us for dinner and gave the Blessing. Julie Hughes celebrated the end of her year as Chair with a heartfelt embrace of gratitude and passed leadership forward to Sarah Bonini who introduced her board.

Lenore Grant announced a membership total of over 200, the largest group ever! We all enjoyed the delicious strawberry cupcakes made by members of the Baking Group. The enchanted evening concluded with an Irish Blessing about mothers from Maria Von Massenhausen and Gigi Harvey.

*Thanks to all who attended!*

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*“There is but one and  
only one on earth,  
there is no other.*

*In Heaven a noble  
work was done  
when God gave man a  
Mother.”*

*~ Irish Blessing*

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# AMEN SPRING DINNER APRIL 26, 2022



Julie, Bev and Heidi worked their magic!!

*good times*



*Great Job!*



# AMEN SPRING DINNER APRIL 26, 2022



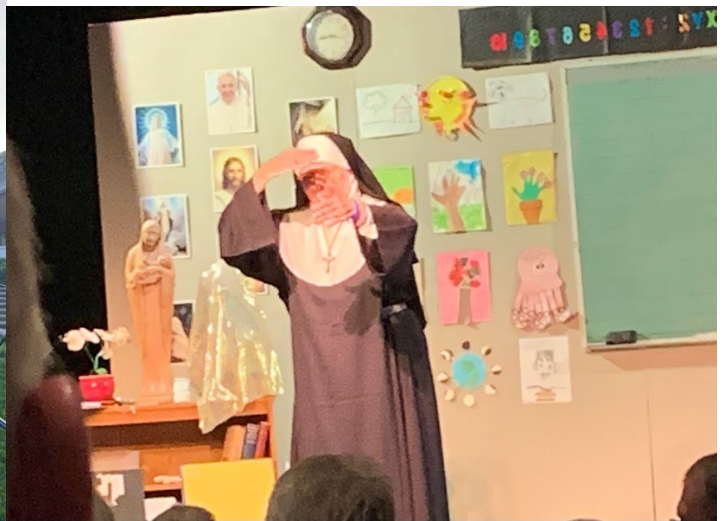
Thank you, Father Wade!



## AMEN EVENTS

Villa Montalvo was a incredible night!! April 9th, 2022

Late Nite Catechism: Sister's Easter Catechism



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## CIRCLE NEWS

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### Join the fun and become an AMEN Board Member!

The AMEN board is looking for a couple more enthusiastic members for our 2021-2022 board. We meet monthly, and in addition to planning activities and keeping AMEN organized, there's a lot of laughter, conversation and tasty sips and snacks. Interested? Email Sarah Bonini to find out more! [Sarahjbonini@gmail.com](mailto:Sarahjbonini@gmail.com)

### New Group!

EVENING MOVIE CIRCLE

Popcorn! Good & Plenty! Milk Duds! Twizzlers!

Think outside the streaming box and join the Evening Movie Circle!

Back by popular demand, and open theatres, the Evening Movie Circle is back!!

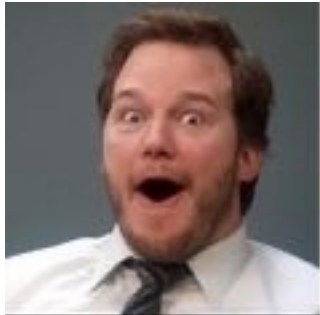
One weeknight a month this newly formed Social Circle will meet for a movie outing and possibly dinner before the show. The group will vote on dates, times, and movies before each show. Ideally, each person will purchase a ticket in advance so we can sit together as a group. **The group will meet year round.**

*All Are Welcome!*

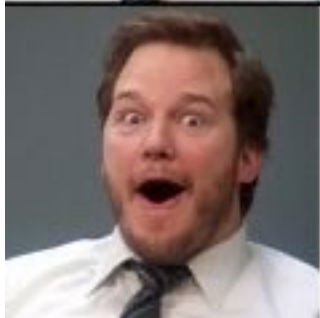
To join the group email: Jennifer Deal, [Jddeal@gmail.com](mailto:Jddeal@gmail.com)



## CIRCLE NEWS



The first time  
you play  
pickleball



The 2708th  
time you play  
pickleball



The AMEN Golf group meets the first Weds of each month and we play year round. (Weather permitting.)

We are a casual group and all levels of play are welcome to golf with us. We usually play at Pruneridge Golf Course but are open to play at other courses.

We look forward to seeing you over the summer and reach out to us any time!

To join the AMEN Golf group  
Contact: [Catherine Christofferson](#)

The new Pickleball group has been wildly popular. The stated AMEN times are the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 3:30. But this group is full of fun and vigor, so they have been meeting most Wednesdays. During the school year at Willow Glen Middle School, we are confined to a 3:30 start due to district rules about when we can be on a school campus. With the arrival of summer and warmer weather, we will likely continue to play on Wednesdays but move to a morning time slot. Stay tuned for more information on that.

Location: [Willow Glen Middle School](#) on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

All are welcome!

Contact: [Kathy Armistead](#)



## CIRCLE NEWS

### Baking Social Circle A YEAR OF SWEET AND SAVORY

BEV BONOVIK AND DONNA GALLO

The Baking Circle kicked off the year by learning how to make bagels topped with sesame seeds or “everything”. We then created magnificent charcuterie boards in fall. We also learned how to decorate beautiful holiday cookies!

We baked almost 100 strawberry cupcakes for the AMEN Spring Dinner. We thought we would end the year sharing the Strawberry Cake and Strawberry frosting recipes with all AMEN members. See the “hot tips” below each recipe.

#### Strawberry Cake

<https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/strawberry-cake/>

This is the first strawberry cake recipe that “nailed it”! It is so fresh and so full of strawberry flavor!

#### Hot Tips

- Purée the fruit and cook it down the day before baking. It takes quite a while to cool! Any extra topping can be frozen for a later time or used on ice cream, pudding or cheesecake.
- Use organic strawberries to avoid pesticides.
- Frozen organic strawberries work well! You can buy a 4 pound bag at Costco. Defrost them before use and drain them well! Purée them in the blender then cook them down. 4. Bring the berries to a boil then turn down to simmer and stir them every 15 minutes. They are done when the strawberry purée is about half of what you started with.
- Measure out all your wet and dry ingredients before baking. Mix butter and sugar well. Once the dry ingredients are added, mix just until there are no lumps. If cake batter is over mixed it will lose its airiness and turn flat

- Cake Flour is expensive! You can make cake flour by removing 2 tablespoons of flour per cup and replacing it with 2 tablespoons of cornstarch. Mix well then sift. It’s that easy!

- The strawberry frosting suggested in the Sally’s recipe is not very tasty (dried strawberries vs fresh purée). Also, try to avoid frosting made with cream cheese in summer it easily melts.

- When making cupcakes, only fill the cup liner 2/3 way with batter. It’s just the right amount!

#### Frosting

<https://www.twosisterscrafting.com/strawberry-buttercream-frosting/>

This strawberry frosting is amazing! Light, fluffy and full of flavor! This frosting can be made in different berry flavors by replacing the fresh strawberry purée with another berry purée. It’s also delicious with blackberry preserves! Use Bombe Maman brand (red and white checkered jars lid). The blackberry frosting is amazing! Try it on a lemon cake.

#### Hot Tip

1. Remember to make enough purée for the frosting.
2. Double the recommended frosting recipe. Any extra frosting can be frozen.



We look forward to baking with you next year!  
Happy Baking!





# Bellarmino News

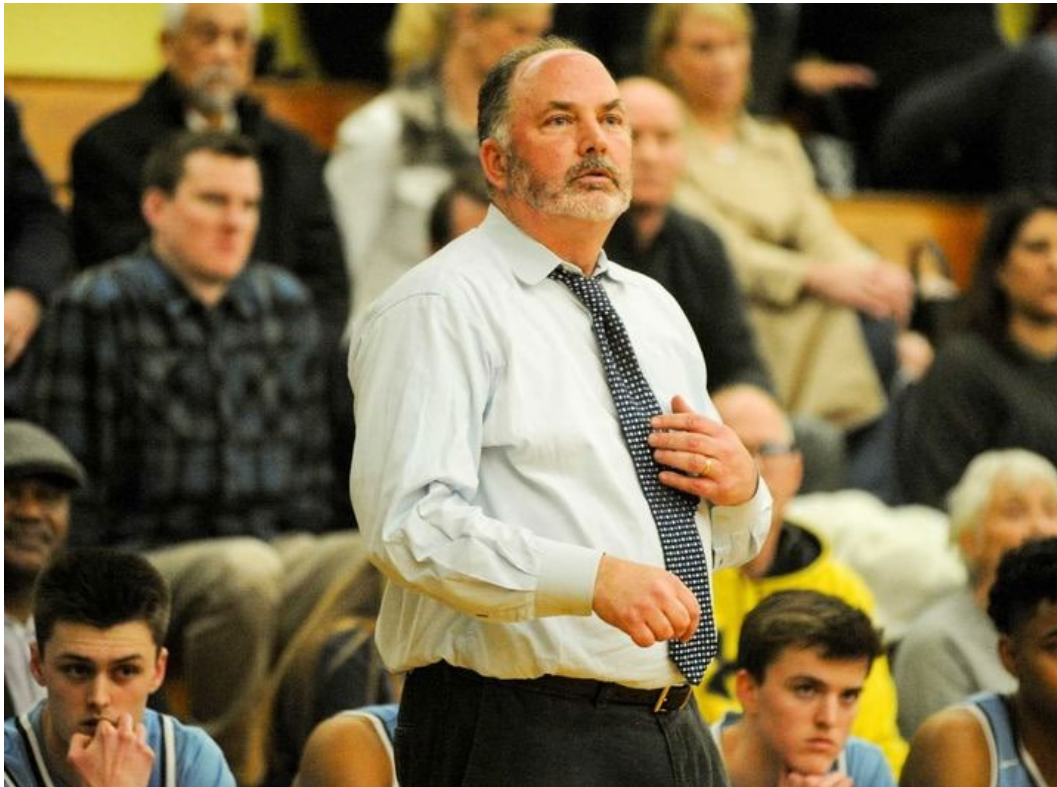
Thanks to all the Bells who joined us to welcome the **Class of 2022** into the alumni community!



John Petersen '02 was the keynote speaker at the Alumni-Senior Networking Luncheon. He was part of a six-man team that holds the world record as the only team to have successfully rowed from the southern tip of South America to the shores of Antarctica on human power alone. Throughout the harrowing 12-day journey of rowing through the insanely dangerous Drake Passage, John put his philosophy of “the power of team” to the test. As John shared with the seniors today, nobody succeeds alone: “Go out into the world and build your team wherever you go. Whether you’re a dad, an artist, an entrepreneur, a teacher, an engineer, or a politician — nurture community, build trust, and fulfill all your dreams in service of others. Don’t be a hero, be a human. The team is the hero.” We extend our sincere thanks to John and the 75 other alumni who shared their own college and career insights with the Class of 2022!!

Congratulations to **Patrick Schneider**, who announced that he's stepping down after a storied 30-year career as Bellarmine's varsity basketball coach! Schneider led the Bells to 14 CCS championships, was twice named Mercury News Coach of the Year, and retires as the winningest coach in the history of the West Catholic Athletic League.

<https://www.bcp.org/.../longtime-bellarmino-varsity...>



## Virtual Connections

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