

**BULLETIN: For Wednesday, May 28, 2025**  
[www.BelmontRotaryClub.com](http://www.BelmontRotaryClub.com)

## Club Meeting

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**102 S. Central Ave.**  
**Belmont, NC 28012**

*Time: Wednesday at 12:30 PM*

## Speakers

**May 28th**

**Holocaust survivor Suly Chenkin**

The powerful story of survival, resilience and hope after the Nazi invasion of Lithuania in WWII will be told by one who experienced the horrors of the Kovno ghetto as a child. Rotarian Whitney Norton will host the program.



**June 4th**

**Alex Szucs**

Belmont City Councilman Alex Szucs will speak on city government issues. Rotarian Seth Sherrin will host the program.



## Events

**June 26th, 6:00-8:00 PM**

**2025-26 Club Officers Installation Social**

Celebrate the installation of Ken Pahon as president for a second term along with other 2025-26 officers at the beautiful McLean South Shore Clubhouse.



**McLean South Shore Clubhouse**  
 229 Seven Oaks Drive  
 Belmont, NC 28012

## Birthdays



**Thomas M. Hunter III**  
 June 7th



**Michael C. Giang**  
 June 22nd



**Floyd Farmer**  
 June 25th

## Wedding Anniversaries



**Rebecca Monk Johns**  
 May 30th



**Richard S. Cromlish Jr.**  
 June 1st



**Kenneth J Pahon**  
 June 18th

## Club Officers



**Kenneth J Pahon**  
 President-Elect  
 President

**Jennifer Grant**

## Dragonfly NO. 2 installed in Stowe Conservancy

**Monday, May 26, 2025**

Dragonfly NO. 2 fluttered into the Daniel Stowe Conservancy last week and settled on a hillside in the Lost Hollow children's garden. Both dragonfly sculptures are the creations of



Treasurer



Bradford R. Frazier  
President-Nominee



Ted B. Hall  
Public  
Relations/Image  
Chair



Michelle Petty  
Membership Chair



Thomas M. Hunter  
III  
iPast President

## District Officers



Kevin Kendrick  
District Governor



Donna M Moffett  
DG - Elect



Laurel Roe Morris  
Assistant Governor-  
Gaston County

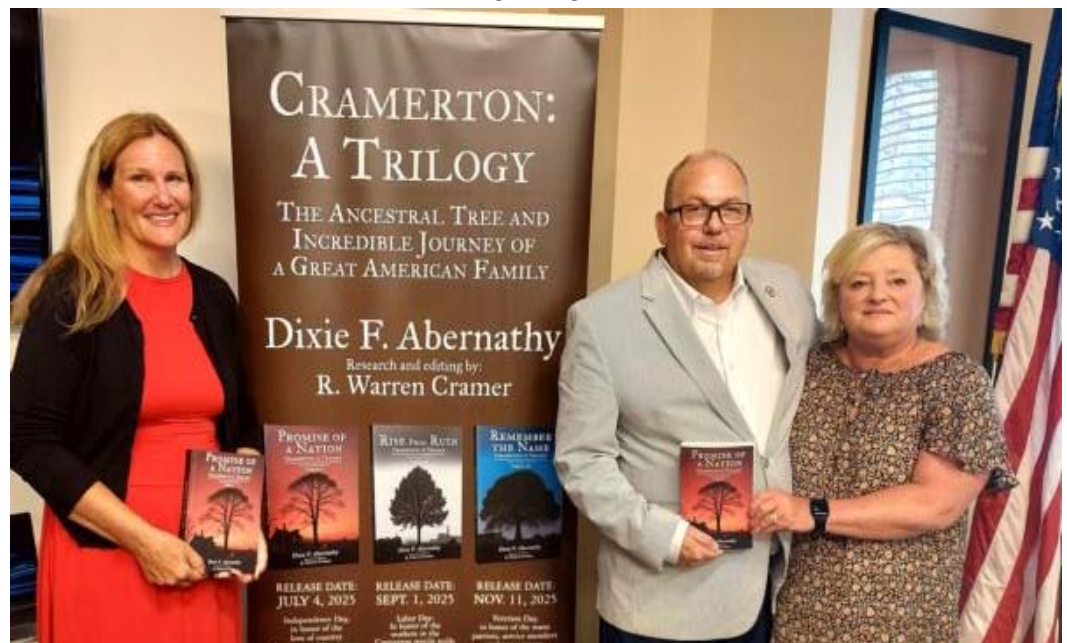
artist, musician, chiropractor and Belmont Rotary Club member Dr. David Demperio. His first dragonfly creation was installed in the garden in 2023. David is at left in the photo, and helping with the installation are conservancy staff members Dylan Wrubel (center) and Jason Bonham.



## LAST WEEK AT ROTARY

### First book in Cramerton trilogy coming July 4

Wednesday, May 21, 2025



"Cramerton: A Trilogy" author Dixie Abernathy (left) with two members of the project's editorial team, Jeff and Jennifer Ramsey. Jeff chairs the Gaston County Board of Education, and Jennifer is a member of the Town of Cramerton Board of Commissioners.

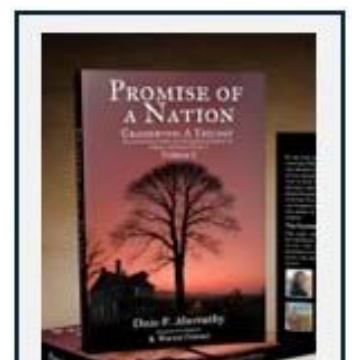
**"The books are historical fiction. The facts are historically accurate, but the books read like novels."**

--Author Dixie F. Abernathy

During the Cramerton centennial celebration in 2015, it was suggested a book should be written chronicling the founding of the town and the life of its founder Stuart W. Cramer. Exactly a decade later not one but three books are written and will be published over the next six months.

Educator, writer, and long-time Cramerton resident, Dixie Abernathy is the author of "Cramerton: A Trilogy," which she wrote in close collaboration with R. Warren Cramer, grandson of Stuart Cramer. Abernathy told how the monumental task was accomplished in a recent presentation to members of the Belmont Rotary Club.

Abernathy has worked in education for 36 years, serving as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and assistant superintendent in the Gaston County school system. She was North Carolina teacher of the year in 1992. She now is an associate professor of education and director of the Masters of





Arts in Educational Leadership Program. at Queens University in Charlotte. She also serves on the Town of Cramerton Board of Commissioners.

Since publishing her first novel in 2020, Abernathy has written six more, all set in the mountains of Western North Carolina around Chimney Rock and Lake Lure. Her previous books were published under the pen name Jordan R. Samuel, which she chose to honor her three children.

Abernathy told Rotarians she and Warren Cramer began working on a book soon after the idea was born, but they came to realize the Cramer family story could not be told in a single book. So, they scrapped 200 pages of manuscript and dropped the project.

Years later in 2022, she said, Cramerton resident Jeff Ramsey came to her with a new suggestion. "What if we give it another try," she quotes Ramsey as saying, "and this time surround you with a team of people you know and trust." That's how an editorial team originated. Along with Abernathy, Warren Cramer and Jeff Ramsey, other members are Jeff's wife Jennifer Ramsey, Cramerton Mayor Pro Tem Richard Atkinson and Cramerton Historical Society President Doug Glenn.

The team worked for three years and four months pouring through 320 sources to document events covering 168 years of American and Cramer family history. More than 200 edits were made during the long writing process. Every source is identified in the back of each book.

"My doctoral dissertation was nothing compared to this experience," Abernathy said.

"The books are historical fiction," she adds. "The facts are historically accurate, but the books read like novels."

The trilogy spans four wars -- the American Revolution, the Civil War, and two world wars -- so the books deal with great tragedy and failure as well as happiness and success. "By the time you spend three and a half years with a family, you get attached," Abernathy said, "and it becomes hard to write the tragedy parts."

The three books will be published in the second half of this year on Independence Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day. All can be purchased through Amazon. The first book is available now to pre-order. Here are the titles, time period covered and publication dates for "**Cramerton: A Trilogy**," by Dixie F. Abernathy; *Research & Editing* by R. Warren Cramer.

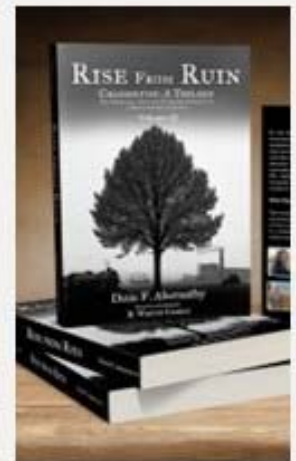
*"Promise Of A Nation"*  
1778 - 1865  
July 4, 2025

*"Rise From Ruin"*  
1865 - 1913  
September 1, 2025

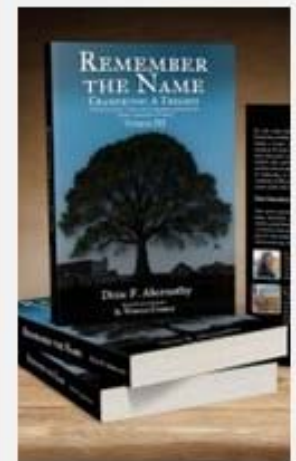
*"Remember The Name"*  
1914 - 1946  
November 11, 2025



1778 - 1865



1865 - 1913



1914 - 1946