

TVARA NEWS

The TVA Retirees Association

The Tennessee Valley Authority Retirees Association | 400 West Summit Hill Drive WT 8C-K | Knoxville, TN 37902 | www.mytvvara.org | 865-632-3318

TVARA Membership Best Deal Your \$15 Can Buy

By DeWITT BURLESON, TVARA Valleywide President

Over the past two years it has been my privilege to visit all 20 chapters of our retirees association.

Some chapters are very strong in attendance of meetings and in program support, while others would like to see more retirees participate.

Chapter officers are volunteers who work diligently to welcome retirees of all ages and to have programs on issues of interest.

These meetings are a good place to meet old friends and reconnect. I find that retirees are members because they receive the benefits of relevant information and the camaraderie of fellow retirees,

and have a voice through the association. Many retirees of other employers do not have such an organization.

So, if possible, attend the Christmas luncheon or next meeting of your chapter.

Mid-term elections were held recently, and many citizens went to the polls to vote. On the ballot were candidates vying to be their representative in various elected offices. However, many people for whatever reason did not vote and are therefore represented by officials selected by others.

The TVA Retirees Association is the representative of all of you TVA retirees on matters affecting you. Don't stay on

the sidelines. Vote for continued retiree representation through your membership and your attendance at meetings.

Members also receive this newsletter quarterly rather than once a year.

For \$15 per year the benefits of TVARA membership are far greater than the cost. If you are not currently a member, please see the article on Dues Notices for 2019 on page 16 of this issue and renew or begin your membership.

For more than 50 years our chapters have flourished because retirees join and infuse ideas and energy into the organization. Your involvement is welcome.

Bank of New York Mellon Offers New Tax-Aid Features

By JUSTIN VINEYARD
Senior Retirement Consultant, TVA Retirement

To assist with collecting year-end tax information, you can now go to bnym.accessmyretirement.com and create an account that will enable you to utilize several new self-service features. These features will assist you in (1) updating address, direct deposit, and tax withholding; (2) viewing payment detail and year-end 1099-R tax statements; and (3) suppressing the mailing of paper statements.

To create an account, you will need your BNY Mellon account number, which is located on the monthly statement you receive in the mail.

As a reminder, a paper version of the year-end

1099-R tax statements will be mailed by BNY Mellon to the address it has on file for you.

For answers to your questions or if you do not receive your 1099-R by mid-February, call BNY Mellon toll-free at 1-844-545-1256.

TVARS Reports Earnings from Fiscal Year 2018

The TVA Retirement System reports that for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, investments earned 5.8 percent.

Including the benefit payments, investment earnings, and TVA's contributions, TVARS

assets fiscal year-to-date total \$8.0 billion.

The system's annualized returns over the past three- and five-year periods have been 9.3 and 6.6 percent, respectively.

TVARS Board announces new member, Michael Belcher

In the recent election of a director vacancy on the TVA Retirement System Board, employees voted to elect Michael Belcher, Reactor Unit Operator, TVA Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant. His three-year term runs from Nov. 1, 2018, to Oct. 31, 2021.



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Pension Benefits and 401(k) Accounts
 Call TVA Retirement System
 toll-free @ 1-800-824-3870
 or visit website @
tva.gov/retireeportal

Medical and Drug Coverage
 Call *BlueCross Blue Shield (medical)*
 toll-free at 1-800-245-7942
 Call *Express Scripts (drug)*
 toll-free at 1-800-935-6203
 Or call *TVA Employee Benefits*
 toll-free at 1-888-275-8094
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Retirement Services Information
 Call the Bank of New York Mellon
 toll-free at 1-877-876-4975

The TVA Retirees Association is the official organization of all TVA retirees. It was organized to serve the varied interests of TVA and its retirees and their beneficiaries, and to help keep them informed of TVA developments affecting their interests. It has been recognized by TVA as the responsible representative of retirees in conveying retiree views.

TVARA NEWS & NOTES

The following news items were submitted to TVARA News by TVA's Internal Communications department:

TVA appoints Mike Skaggs new COO as Balducci retires

TVA has named Executive Vice President Mike Skaggs Chief Operating Officer, reporting to President/Chief Executive Officer Bill Johnson. As COO, Skaggs is responsible for TVA Nuclear, Power Operations, Generation Construction Projects & Services, Transmission & Power Supply, and Facilities.



Mike Skaggs

Skaggs also announced TVA's new Chief Nuclear Officer, Tim Rausch, a veteran of the nation's nuclear-power industry with more than 25 years of experience in the industry, who will report to him. Rausch joined the company on Oct. 15, succeeding CNO Mike Balducci, who informed TVA earlier this year of his intent to retire in March 2019.

Rausch comes to TVA from Talen Energy Corp., where he served as Senior Vice President/Chief Nuclear Officer.

Built for the People: TVA opens hydro facilities to public tours

TVA's dams were built for the people of the Tennessee Valley, and although they've

generated renewable, low-cost power for decades, they remained closed from public view for many years. To celebrate TVA's 85th anniversary this year and the addition of 25 more hydro facilities to the National Register of Historic Places, the public was invited in this summer to a powerhouse tour at six of TVA's dams — Norris, Chickamauga, Guntersville, Kentucky, Wilson, and Raccoon Mountain.

The tours were a collaborative effort between TVA Police, Communications & Marketing, and Hydro Generation. Two tours at each facility were announced at 10 a.m. on a Friday morning in May. By that Sunday, all tours were booked, with hundreds more on the waiting list.

The dam tours served both as a platform for sharing TVA's story and a way to show off the structures.

"We shared the historical significance of each dam and taught visitors about the public-power model," says TVA Historian Pat Ezzell. "We told visitors about all the different things TVA is involved with today, and our mission of serving the people of the Valley to make life better. It was great to get to display these facilities — they're such awesome structures, both from an engineering and architectural standpoint."



Allen Fossil Plant

TVA honors legacy of Allen Fossil Plant

Former Allen Fossil Plant employees and retirees were honored on July 19 for their years of service with a legacy event at the historic gala venue, The Columns, in downtown Memphis.

Among the attendees was Jerry Locke, who started at Allen Fossil Plant in December of 1958, five months before the initial commercial operation began.

“TVA has been a great company to work for and provided me with a good living,” Locke said. “I had good relationships and great memories. Allen was a wonderful place to work, and the people I worked with became my family.”

Retiree Fred Allen, who began working at Allen Fossil Plant when it was still operated by Memphis Light, Gas & Water, said he also enjoyed working at Allen.

“I had a good time, made a lot of friends, and really enjoyed working in operations,” he said. “I was glad to work with MLGW but also proud to work for TVA.” Allen’s son, Michael, worked as a Boilermaker at the plant before retiring this fall.

For more than 59 years, Allen Fossil Plant provided reliable power to the people of the Tennessee Valley. To comply with environmental regulations, TVA began retiring coal-fired units six years ago. Allen employees who worked at the site when TVA began retiring units were given opportunities to be placed in other positions within the company.

TVA, ORNL teaming up to uncover new technology

TVA is collaborating with Oak Ridge National Laboratories to support tech innovations through the Department of Energy’s Innovation Crossroads program. The two-year program aims to pair top talent with national labs in an effort to uncover new technologies in advanced manufacturing and energy systems.

TVA will provide funding, guidance, and mentoring to support Innovation Crossroads fellows focusing on energy-related topics involving early-stage research and development.

“TVA is committed to pursuing research and development of technology that best serves residents of the Tennessee Valley,” says Joe Hoagland, Vice President, TVA Enterprise Relations & Innovation. “This partnership between ORNL and the Department of Energy will expose us to new ways of thinking about energy-related issues.”

The participants will be part of a two-year post-doctoral entrepreneurial fellowship and are expected to begin the program in May 2019.

Lucky 13: TVA’s efforts pay off year after year

For most power companies, economic development is a sensible, symbiotic relationship with new businesses: They keep businesses going and in return get demand for plenty of electrons flowing, according to the August edition of Site Selector magazine. It’s just good for the bottom line, which in turn keeps investors happy.

For TVA that relationship goes a little bit deeper. “TVA was founded in 1933 to bring jobs and investment to the Valley,” says John Bradley, TVA Senior Vice President of Economic Development. “It’s ingrained in our mission of service, and it underscores much of what we do to make our region a great place to live and work. We don’t do it for investors. We do it for the people of the Valley.”

The company’s efforts pay off year after year. Once again, for the 13th consecutive year, Site Selection magazine has recognized TVA as one of the Top 10 Utilities in Economic Development.

In its August edition, Site Selection cited a recent Wall Street Journal article that placed two Valley cities — Huntsville, Ala., and Clarksville, Tenn. — among the nation’s hottest high-tech hot spots due to abundant, clean, and low-cost power, and low cost of living.

The magazine also recognized perhaps the biggest news of 2017: the announcement of a \$1.6-billion Toyota-Mazda joint venture in Huntsville. That, along with the announcement of a Nokian Tyre facility in Dayton, Tenn., contributed to \$8.3 billion in corporate investment for the year and 70,000 new jobs for the region.

TVA’s economic-development activities are manifold, and Site Selection took note of the

breadth. These activities include a new solar farm in Memphis, new transmission lines and switching stations near the prospering Golden Triangle in Mississippi, a new Aerospace & Defense Target Market initiative, a newly formed Composites Coalition, and three ongoing TVA product-development programs: Megasites, InvestPrep™ Program, and New Legacy Sites.

That’s a lot of work for the TVA Economic Development team, but it continues to pay big dividends.

“We’re seeing continued success in 2018,” Bradley says. “In the first six months alone, we attracted or retained 42,000 jobs and secured \$8.5 billion in capital investment through our economic-development efforts with state and local partners throughout our seven-state service region.”

TWRA lists Norris tailwaters among top trout-fishing spots

The tailwaters below Norris Dam have been ranked by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency as one of the best tailwater trout-fishing destinations in the state for 2018.

Conditions are near perfect there for raising monsters of the species, according to Dennis Baxter, Manager of River Reservoir Compliance Monitoring for TVA, lifelong trout angler, and past president of the Clinch River chapter of Trout Unlimited (CRCTU.org).

“The water stays nearly 50 degrees year-round, which is the perfect growing temperature for trout,” Baxter says. “And the water quality and constant temperature coming out of our dam ensure a reliable food source for the fish.”

And there’s another big plus: “The TWRA trout-management practice provides a protected length range — or ‘slot limit’ — that allows the trout here to grow to trophy size,” Baxter says.

Fontana Fixes

In a photo caption in the “Fun at Fontana . . .” article in the September 2018 issue of *TVARA News*, Marka Presley Smith was identified incorrectly as Marka Presley. Also, she is a full-time Program Manager in Bicentennial Volunteers Inc. in Knoxville and not a Fontana Visitors Center worker.

Annual TVA Retiree App

Some 1,000 TVA retirees and their guests gathered at Chattanooga's First Tennessee Pavilion Oct. 4 for fun, food, and fellowship at the annual TVA Retiree Appreciation Picnic.

Jacinda Woodward, TVA's Senior Vice President of Power Operations, was guest speaker, while TVA Director A.D. Frazier and his wife were honored guests.

Janet Brewer, TVA Senior Vice President/Chief Communications & Marketing Officer, greeted retirees, thanking them for their many years of service.

Humorist Sam Venable, a longtime Knoxville News Sentinel columnist, provided entertainment, while students from Chattanooga-area schools performed robotics

demonstrations. Authors from the TVA Retirees Association were on hand to sell their books.

And students from Chattanooga State Community College donated their time to conduct free blood-pressure checks.



Suzan Bowman



Guest speaker Sam Venable addresses the crowd.



Donna and Jerry Golden



Byrl King



Larry and Beverly Rowe, Virginia Wyrick



Levi and Mary Bowers



Frankie Hogan



Alyce Scott

Appreciation Valleywide Picnic



Shirley and Ralph Jones



Ann Stone



Herschel and Pat Boyd



Donna and Randy Snorek



David and Lola Curran



Tony Miller



New for 2019 – Non-Medicare Retiree Medical Benefits

Retirees — or their dependents — who are not yet eligible for Medicare should note there are some changes in the TVA-sponsored Medical Plan for 2019. Specifically, the following changes will be in effect starting Jan. 1:

1. Changes in Consumer-Directed Health Plan Medical Plan — The CDHP **out-of-network** deductible will increase from \$2,600 Individual/\$5,200 Family to \$2,700 Individual /\$5,400 Family. Deductibles for in-network services will not change. This will have only a modest impact on members. The TVA medical plan utilizes a large network, and members overwhelmingly use in-network providers. They save money, and the plan saves money.

2. Changes in the 80% PPO Medical Plan — The 80% PPO in-network deductible will increase from \$400 Individual/\$800 Family to \$450 Individual/\$900 Family. Deductibles for out-of-network services will increase to \$900 Individual/\$1,800 Family. The out-of-pocket maximum (the most you will pay for covered charges) will increase to \$2,750 Individual/\$5,500 Family (in-network) and to \$5,500 Individual/\$11,000 Family (out-of-network). Even with these increases, the plan's deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums remain significantly lower than those in plans sponsored by other companies.

3. More Flexible Frequency Limits for Vision Care — Currently, you must wait a full 12 months (for eye exams and lenses) or 24 months (for frames) from the last date of service to have them covered under your vision plan. Beginning in 2019, eye exams and lenses are covered once per calendar year. Frames are covered once every other calendar year. If, for example, you have an exam and get new frames and lenses any time during 2019, you can get another exam and new lenses at any time in 2020. You will have to wait until 2021 for new frames to be covered.

4. Prescription-Drug-Plan Formulary — The formulary of prescription drugs will change to the Express Scripts National Preferred Formulary. There are no changes to

the prescription-drug plan design for co-payments and co-insurance. But some prescription drugs may now be excluded and not covered. There will always be, however, a covered prescription-drug alternative. If you are taking a drug being excluded from coverage, you will be contacted directly by Express Scripts by letter explaining your options.

5. New Option for Maintenance Medications — The Maintenance Medication Refill Program will provide you with two options to obtain refills of certain maintenance medications (those drugs you take regularly for ongoing conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes, or high cholesterol). Under this program, the prescription plan will cover up to three retail-pharmacy purchases of covered maintenance medications. After three retail purchases, you can get 90-day refills of those prescriptions through home delivery from the Express Scripts Pharmacy or, beginning Jan. 1, at a participating retail SMART90 pharmacy. (All Walgreens participate.) If you currently receive a maintenance medication through Express Scripts, more information will be mailed to you about this retail option.

6. Increase in Health Savings Account Maximum Annual Contribution — The maximum annual HSA contribution from all sources (that is, TVA's contribution plus your contributions) will increase to \$3,500 Individual coverage/\$7,000 Family coverage as mandated by the IRS. If you are age 55 or older, you can also make additional "catch-up" contributions. The maximum annual catch-up contribution is \$1,000, beginning in the year you turn 55.

7. Reduction in Monthly Health Savings Account Administrative Fee — If your HSA account balance is under \$3,000, there is a monthly HSA administrative fee. The monthly administrative fee will be reduced from \$1.75 to \$0.25. There is no fee if you maintain a balance of \$3,000 or more.

What's not changing? Premiums! Premiums for the TVA medical plans are not changing for 2019. If you change plans, of course, your premiums will change.

For more information about the plans available to you, see the "Your Health Counts Medical Plan 2019" booklet mailed to your home or visit tva.com/retireeportal. — JERRY LONDON

Open Enrollment Ends Soon for Medicare Retirees

By JERRY LONDON, Senior Program Manager, TVA Healthcare Plans

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Open Enrollment for Medicare plans began Oct. 15 and will be ending Dec. 7. So you still have a little bit of time left to change your Medicare health plan and your prescription-drug coverage for next year.

Make sure you review any materials your current plans sent you, such as the Evidence of Coverage and Annual Notice of Change. Be sure your plans will still meet your needs for 2019.

If you don't want to make any changes, you don't need to do anything. You will remain in the plans in which you currently are enrolled.

If you are enrolled in a plan through Via Benefits and want to make a change or are interested in learning more about the options available to you, call Via Benefits toll-free at 1-844-620-5725 by Dec. 7.

IMPORTANT: As a reminder, if you are a TVA retiree or the surviving dependent of a TVA retiree and do not remain enrolled in a medical plan through Via Benefits, any dependents covered on a TVA group medical plan (that is, 80% PPO or CDHP) will be removed from coverage, and any TVA contribution or TVA Healthcare Credit will no longer be provided.

Paying TVARA Dues Online Through Your Local Bank

TVARA Membership Dues Renewal Notices for 2019 will be mailed during the first week of January 2019. Dues Notices will be mailed to retirees who have not paid dues for 2019. You can pay your dues by writing a check and returning it in the Dues Notice envelope you receive in the mail. You can pay your dues online through your local bank or credit union as follows:

1	Log in to your local bank or credit union website.	
2	Click on menu item “Bill Pay Online” – or your bank may say “Bill Pay” or something similar.	
3	You will see a list of “payees” you may have already created. If you do not see the payee “TVARA,” there should be a link to allow you to set up a new payee. If you see TVARA, proceed to step 5.	
4	Provide the following information: (Note: You will only need to setup a new payee once.)	
	a	Payee name: TVARA
	b	Address: TVA Retirees Association, 400 West Summit Hill Drive WT 8C-K, Knoxville, TN 37902-9901
	c	Account number: Enter the six-digit Membership ID found above your name on the address label on the Dues Notice you received. The Membership ID also can be found on the latest TVARA newsletter.
	d	Email address: Your email address
	e	Phone number(s): Home and/or cellphone numbers. The bank may require both.
	f	Provide other information required by your bank.
	g	Other: Click Submit, Continue, or Next, based on your website.
h	You should see TVARA in the list of payees.	
5	Click on payee TVARA	
	a	Deduct from account: Select checking, savings, or credit card.
	b	Amount: Enter \$15 (or \$30 if you wish to pay for two years or \$45 if you wish for three years and so on).
	c	Date: Enter today's date if permitted to do so.
	d	Memo: Enter additional instructions you need to inform TVARA. For example, “Dues for John and Jane Doe.”
	e	Click Submit

Has Your Contact Information Changed?

Did you recently change your email address or phone number? If so, go to mytvara.org/your-current-membership-information/ and correct the appropriate data. If you have changed your home address recently, notify the TVA Retirement System in writing. Also, you can change your home address through the Bank of New York Mellon website (bnym.accessmyretirement.com).



THE MEDITERRANEAN

My Love Affair with the Sea & Lands

By SHARON WRIGHT COTTRELL

Cruising is an excellent way to experience easy, stress-free travel, since all the details of your trip are taken care of by teams of experts.

In the Summer of 2017, after a friend recommended Oceania Cruises, I picked up a brochure at my local AAA Travel Agency and began to browse.

That's when I discovered a comprehensive 85-day cruise to the Mediterranean on the mid-size Oceania *Sirena* ship, leaving Miami on June 23, 2018, and returning to Miami on Sept. 16, 2018.



The Oceania *Sirena*

The itinerary had 64 port days in 50 unique locations, including some very familiar places like Rome and Athens, but also many obscure, exotic-sounding ports like Bastia,

Monemvasia, and Limassol that promised to be very exciting.

This was a trip I couldn't pass up.

I have been fascinated with the Mediterranean, Europe, and Western Civilization since college. The Romans named the Mediterranean for being in the center (medi-) of the Earth (-terranian), and it's on the surrounding shores of the Mediterranean that you'll find the origins of Western Civilization.

When you are sailing into the Greek Islands, the brilliant white houses of Santorini and Patmos, and the row of windmills on Mykonos set against blue skies and the deep sapphire of the Mediterranean are unforgettable sights.

The medieval walled cities of Rhodes, the many fortifications of Malta, and the hillside villages of Positano, Amalfi, and



Sharon Cottrell at Anxur Temple in Terracina, Italy



The author in Fira, Santorini, Greece



Cinque Terre in Italy are a photographer's delight.

Memories of sailing into the cozy harbor town of Portofino and the canals of Venice will stay with me for the rest of my life.

The drives along Cap Corse Peninsula in Corsica and the Myrtos Beach area in Cephalonia have landscapes and beauty with no comparison. The climb through the mountains of western Madeira and the 25 switchbacks on the road weaving back and forth from Kotor to Cetinje in Montenegro rival every mountain drive anywhere in the world.

I have a special interest in photographing various types of architecture, so a top destination for me was Barcelona, with its Antoni Gaudi Catalan Modernism-style architecture.

It's a one-of-a-kind style, and Gaudi's highly individualized works include the Basilica of the Sagrada Familia, Park Guell, Casa Batllo, and Casa Mila.

Clockwise from top left: Manarola, Italy (Cinque Terre); Anastasis Church in Oia, Santorini; Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth; and Sharon with husband, Brad, dining at L'Opera Restaurant in Saint Tropez, France.

The city with 1,000 windows in Berat, Albania, the Mesquite Mosque Cathedral in Cordoba, Spain, and the ancient Greek-Roman Theater in Taormina, Sicily, with Mt. Etna erupting in the background also are unique in the realm of architecture.

The Rua Augusta in Lisbon runs from the cruise port to the highpoint of the city at the Eduardo VII Park, with its superb view of Lisbon. Walking this beautiful tree-lined street made

Continued on next page



me feel like a local enjoying a beautiful summer Sunday-morning stroll.

One of my surprise favorite ports was the city of Seville, Spain, with its Alcazar Palace, Plaza de España, and its pavilions from the Ibero-American Expo of 1929. Sailing up the Guadalquivir River from the Atlantic coast to Seville was an amazing experience that is only possible on smaller ships like the Sirena.

A highlight for many cruisers was visiting the port of Haifa in Israel. Excursions from that city took us to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, the Jordan River, Capernaum, Mount of Beatitudes, and the Sea of Galilee.

We were able to see the Western Wall, the Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Church of the Resurrection) in Jerusalem, the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, and the Church of The Nativity in Bethlehem.



Plaza de España in Seville, Spain

My favorite cuisine has always been Mediterranean. Our cruise gave us the chance to try authentic tastes and flavors from many of the world's favorite culinary hot spots.



Ancient Greek-Roman Theater in Taormina, Sicily



Portofino, Italy



Park Guell in Barcelona, Spain



The famous gondolas of Venice, Italy

From the fresh seafood in the South of France to rustic Italian cooking and crisp Greek salads, there were mouthwatering surprises everywhere we traveled. The chefs created special meals from the local ports, giving us plenty of opportunities to try different types of food.

One of our superb dining experiences was in the town of St. Tropez at the L'Opera restaurant, located along the waterfront with sailboats and yachts lining the bay. I could not have asked for a more pleasant Mediterranean setting for a lunch of great French cuisine.

The cruise-ship setting is the perfect place to meet new friends from many countries, cultures, and occupations.

The daily trips and excursions in and around the port cities allow one to meet and interact with many local people in shops and restaurants in every region.

Interacting with the tour guides on the excursions also gives great insights to the cultures and traditions of the local people.

These are wonderful opportunities to see the world through the eyes of others and to live in their world for a short time.

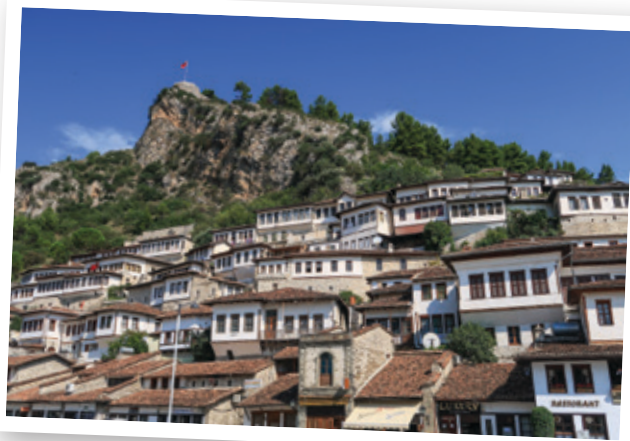
(Sharon Wright Cottrell retired from TVA in 2003 after 29 years of service, the last 20 as a Data Analyst, Systems Analyst, and Database Analyst, as an Administrator of TVA's Corporatewide Repository. Earlier, she was a Biologist in Fisheries and a Conservationist in TVA's Young Adult Conservation Work Corps, TVA Forestry, Fisheries & Wildlife Development. She and her husband, Brad, live in Knoxville — when she's not traveling around the world, which she has spent most of her time doing since retiring.)

View of Kotor, Montenegro, from the road to Cetinje



Mesquite Mosque Cathedral in Cordoba, Spain

The famous windmills of Mykonos, Greece



City of 1,000 Windows in Berat, Albania



Graveyard in Monemvasia, Greece

Worldly Words of Wisdom

Our cruise director passed along the following quotes that will make all adventurous travelers feel good about their explorations:

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the Earth all one's lifetime."

— Mark Twain, 1835, from "The Innocents Abroad"

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page."

— Saint Augustine of Hippo 354 A.D.

(Saint Augustine of Hippo was a Roman African, early Christian theologian, and philosopher from Numidia whose writings influenced the development of Western Christianity and Western philosophy.)

Back to School – in a Powerful Porsche 911

By ROBERT QUILLIN

The engine screamed, and the tires squealed. We came out of the turn and up the hill toward the straightaway as the tachometer reached 7,500 RPM for the upshift.

Seven brightly colored Porsche 911 models played follow the leader around the Barber International Raceway near Birmingham, Ala.

Recently my son, Tracey, purchased a Porsche at Harper Porsche Audi in Knoxville. As a result, he was invited to participate in the Porsche North American Driving School. He arranged for my youngest son, David, and me to participate as well.

The Porsche school is located at Barber Motorsport Park, which sits on about 880 acres. The 2.38-mile track consists of 17 turns and several hills. It is used for Indy-type and Grand Prix-type races, as well as for motorcycle racing.

Included in the Barber Motorsport Park is the Barber Vintage Motorsport Museum. It is the world's largest motorcycle museum with more than 1,600 motorcycles, according to Guinness World Records.

When we arrived, we were greeted by several world-famous racecar drivers. At least 30 late-model Porsches were at our disposal to drive during our various events.

After a brief orientation, we were introduced to our other instructors for the session. We were greatly impressed with the friendliness and courtesy of the staff.

Our first challenge was the off-road course consisting of a steep hill, water pits, boulders, and other off-road obstacles.

We would ride with our expert instructors over the course first, and then we were given our own Porsche to drive on the course. I was assigned a 2019 Porsche Cayenne SUV.

Even though the course was rough, I learned by using the Porsche's built-in electronic stability functions. And by navigating very slowly I was able to negotiate the amazing obstacles.

At the next event, we were treated to our first racetrack experience. We students picked one of the various models available, then followed an instructor with radio controls in the lead car who pointed out the best way to negotiate the track.

After this initial experience, we all rotated to other cars and increased speed as we acquired experience and confidence.

For me, the most exciting experience was the acceleration test with the Porsche "launch control."

For this test, a 911 Turbo S with twin turbos and 580 horsepower was used. A professional driver rode shotgun and instructed us to put the dual-clutch automatic transmission in drive, then hold the brake with the left foot and floor the accelerator with the right foot.



From left, Tracey, Robert, and David Quillin, at Porsche North American Driving School

When we released the brake the engine roared and the takeoff was like holding on to a rocket!

The 911 goes from a standing start to 60 miles per hour in 2.8 seconds, with a top speed of 205 mph. Its cost is in the \$200,000 range.

As we were leaving the motorsport complex, I received a call from my wife. Sandra wanted to know if I was having fun. I replied, "This was one of the most fun-filled days of my life — so what color Porsche do you want?"

Quillin's road to, and through, retirement

Robert Quillin retired from TVA in 2003 after 34 years of service, mostly in Knoxville, first as a Procurement Officer in Engineering Design & Construction, later as a Certifying Officer in Finance & Accounting.

Shortly after he retired he was asked to participate in the East Tennessee Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America by driving some of its antique cars on club tours. AAACA is the largest antique car club in the United States, with about 60,000 members.

A past-president of the ETR AAACA, Quillin says he would like to invite all interested

TVA retirees and their friends to contact him for more information about the club at quillin1@bellsouth.net or call him at 865-977-6857.

"Our group tries to take at least one driving tour each month in our antique cars," he says. "Some of the places we have visited are Blount County's DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Lynchburg's Jack Daniel Distillery, and Chattanooga's Amazon Fulfillment Center and Volkswagen manufacturing facility."

For more information, the club's website is etr.aaca.com.

Oil's Well That Ends Well – Tales of a '54 Hornet

By **THERESA HABIGER**

I have many fond memories of my dad's 1954 Hudson Hornet, which now belongs to me.

When I was a young girl on our Kansas farm, I used to help wash the Hornet along with the other Hudson we had, a green 1949 model. It was a big deal in those days to have two cars.

Dad loaned me the Hornet for the summer after my freshman year in college.

I stayed in Wichita and worked during the summer. I drove home to Great Bend for Father's Day that summer.

Dad woke me up at four in the morning because he was changing the oil on the car and lost the oil plug in the dark. We did find the plug, and I headed back to Wichita.

But I fell asleep driving and ran off the road, nicking a mailbox and getting stuck in a ditch. Dad had to come get me and the car, which needed some minor repairs.

Dad again loaned me the car during semester break my sophomore year. I was moving, and he said I could keep it over the break.

With all this time and a car, I thought I should plan to go somewhere. So I decided to take six of my girlfriends and go to Colorado.

I knew Dad would not approve of my putting so many miles on the car, so I disconnected the speed odometer. I hate to admit this, now that I am old and wise – but I was young then.

We had a great time, even picked up two guy hitchhikers on the way to Colorado. I remember being a little worried about stopping the car with so much weight on the downside of mountain roads, but we made it.

I returned the car all cleaned up to Dad after I reconnected the odometer. All



A '54 Hudson Hornet, on its way back to the future

he said to me the next day was, "You used a lot of oil to drive across town."

When dad died, my two brothers and two sisters and I drove it in the funeral procession.

I recently brought it to Tennessee with fellow retiree and car aficionado Mike Parker's help.

I now need to find someone to help me get it running. It has always been garaged, but has not been driven in a while.

A Thing of Beauty... By **RENY McCLAIN LEE**

1967 The year that gasoline was 33 cents a gallon, a new car cost on average \$2,750, the average cost of a new house was \$14,250, the average yearly income was \$7,300, a total of 475,000 American troops were serving in Vietnam, and Elvis Presley married Priscilla.

The Ford Mustang was a very popular car that year, as it had been and would be during the '60s – a car many young men craved to have and loved to own.

That included the husband of a friend of mine. Right after they were married, he was drafted and sent to Vietnam. So I became her roommate for the next three years while he served in the Army and spent 17 months in the military hospital at Ft. Campbell, Ky.

I rode shotgun in this Mustang beauty for about a year, until I purchased my own vehicle. But my friends kept the car for many years

until, one day, they called and asked if I was interested in purchasing it.

Well, of course I was! That's how, in 2005, this beauty became mine.

She has a 289-horsepower motor and at one time was modified to be a drag car. I immediately had the back springs removed and replaced the wide drag tires.

I don't drive her much, as her 72,287 original miles reflect. That's really a shame. The Mustangs of the '60s – led, among others, by Steve McQueen's 1968 model in the movie "Bullitt" and the '65 Robert Urich drove as TV's "Spenser" – were truly meant to be cruisin' cars.



Reny McClain Lee, with a very old friend



More car talk?

If you have an old car, truck, motorcycle, jeep, or whatever type of vintage vehicle and would like to share stories about it in *TVARA News*, contact Theresa Habiger at thabiger@charter.net.

In Memoriam

Aug. 1, 2018 – Oct. 31, 2018

Retirement Management received notifications of the deaths of the following retirees for the period Aug. 1 through Oct. 31, 2018, as well as other previously unreported deaths. They are listed with the date of death and (and date of retirement). **To report the death of a retiree, call the TVA Retirement System toll-free at 1-800-824-3870.**

Alexander, Virginia W.,
7/1/2018 (Unknown)

Baldwin, Cecil A.,
9/23/2018 (5/8/2000)

Bivens, William M.,
9/9/2018 (11/27/1994)

Buttrey, Billie M.,
8/9/2018 (8/2/1988)

Case, James E.,
10/8/2018 (10/1/1988)

Churchwell, Glenda S.,
7/27/2018 (1/8/1991)

Cobb, Leo M.,
10/15/2018 (1/12/1987)

Coleman, David M.,
9/27/2018 (12/3/2002)

Covington, Ricky D.,
8/17/2018 (10/29/2006)

Crockett, Joe D.,
7/31/2018 (10/2/1992)

Crouch, Harold L.,
10/14/2018 (4/27/1986)

Crowe, Harley D.,
9/7/2018 (8/5/2006)

Davison, James E.,
8/7/2018 (12/15/2014)

Edwards, Marshall A.,
7/25/2018 (5/4/2005)

Ellis, Lee R.,
10/3/2018 (12/20/1986)

Ezell, John R.,
9/15/2018 (5/17/1997)

Fielder, Quintus B.,
8/7/2018 (9/19/1982)

Filidei, Robert L.,
8/1/2018 (1/7/2013)

Freels, William G.,
10/24/2018 (10/1/1988)

Goad, W.L.,
9/14/2018 (1/29/1982)

Graves, James D.,
10/8/2018 (10/17/1994)

Gregory, Jake B.,
10/9/2018 (1/1/1993)

Gresham, Lawrence D.,
10/5/2018 (8/2/1988)

Grissom, Wallace,
8/23/2018 (10/17/1994)

Hale, Charles D.,
8/5/2018 (12/4/2001)

Hargis, James H.,
9/8/2018 (10/17/1994)

Henderson, Harold A.,
9/18/2018 (4/9/1988)

Holder, Robert D.,
8/19/2018 (10/2/2005)

Houser, Robert W.,
9/5/2018 (6/24/1991)

Hughes, Patrick W.,
10/6/2018 (3/5/2005)

Jeffers, Susan C.,
7/28/2018 (6/5/2010)

Jones, Randall A.,
10/6/2018 (2/2/2018)

Jones, Clarence W.,
9/16/2018 (7/30/1988)

Kelley, Edward W.,
8/29/2018 (10/1/1988)

Kent, John R.,
10/2/2018 (1/4/2008)

Lange, Norman,
10/19/2018 (9/9/1989)

Langford, Timothy V.,
4/6/2018 (10/3/2015)

Leonard, Sarah M.,
9/17/2018 (1/13/1979)

Lewis, Howard D.,
9/5/2018 (Unknown)

Lindsey, Dona M.,
9/19/2018 (8/27/1994)

Loy, James Ronald,
10/11/2018 (4/1/1986)

Luck, Jimmy J.,
8/14/2018 (6/8/1991)

May, Roy Lee,
9/8/2018 (1/3/2009)

McKeehan, F. Denton,
10/9/2018 (11/14/1992)

Meadors, Luke A.,
8/11/2018 (1/3/2000)

Mears, Robert C., Jr.,
10/1/2018 (12/2/2000)

Michael, Herbert L.,
7/26/2018 (7/30/1988)

Mitchell, Gary L.,
8/22/2018 (3/6/2007)

Monday, Hugh G.,
8/1/2018 (8/10/2002)

Moon, Robert L., Jr.,
10/28/2018 (7/18/2009)

Newton, David E.,
10/28/2018 (12/28/2002)

Norwood, James M.,
5/2/2018 (9/1/2015)

O'Grady, Jack Willard, II,
7/25/2018 (Unknown)

Ownby, James A.,
9/22/2018 (10/24/1987)

Paige, William H.,
10/13/2018 (10/17/1994)

Perkins, Donald R.,
10/15/2018 (12/26/1994)

Perry, Larry T.,
10/11/2018 (1/3/1987)

Pickard, Eugene,
9/9/2018 (1/3/1987)

Pickens, James,
10/12/2018 (4/9/2011)

Qualls, Rudolph,
8/12/2018 (4/12/1986)

Ratcliffe, James H.,
9/7/2018 (10/19/2006)

Rather, Lytle A., III,
8/30/2018 (10/17/1994)

Reatherford, Jerry W.,
8/1/2018 (10/19/2006)

Renard, Fred R., Jr.,
9/14/2018 (4/9/2011)

Reynolds, David N.,
8/26/2018 (6/13/2002)

Rowland, Marcelene H.,
10/17/2018 (10/13/1984)

Smith, Robert G.,
7/23/2018 (4/19/2001)

Smith, William Lewis,
10/23/2018 (7/9/2016)

Smith, James M.,
9/17/2018 (2/2/2001)

Smith, Norval W.,
10/9/2018 (4/8/2000)

Suggs, Flavil N., Jr.,
10/13/2018 (1/21/1987)

Thompson, Jimmy,
10/20/2018 (1/1/1999)

Tolson, Gerald M.,
7/17/2018 (2/5/1986)

Tucker, Guy V.,
7/26/2018 (Unknown)

Vandiver, William A., Sr.,
6/26/2018 (8/30/1980)

Ward, Jerry N.,
9/28/2018 (10/1/1998)

Watson, Michael J.,
8/17/2018 (11/18/2016)

Wilson, Earl G.,
10/2/2018 (6/12/1982)

Woodson, William K.,
7/28/2018 (1/1/1993)

Upcoming December 2018 Chapter Meetings

BROWNS FERRY

December 11, 2018, Noon

Catfish Cabin, Athens, Ala.

- Guest Speaker: Cameron Bucy, Director of Operations, Security Defense Solutions Associates
- Guest Speaker: DeWitt Burleson, Valleywide President, TVARA

John Corcetti, President

256-233-3587/sundevil71@gmail.com

CHATTANOOGA

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

*Brainerd United Methodist Church,
4315 Brainerd Road*

- 10 a.m. Meet 'n' Greet
- 10:30 a.m. Program
- Wrap Christmas gifts for Chambliss Center Children's Home

Tom Swanson, President

423-344-6892/twswanson@comcast.net

CLEVELAND

December 7, 2018, 11 a.m.

*Golden Corral Restaurant,
350 Stuart Road*

- Annual Christmas Luncheon

John Austin, President

423-472-2720/austintnutfan@charter.net

FLORIDA

Autumn 2019

Lakeside Inn,

100 N. Alexander St., Mount Dora, Fla.

- Annual Meeting
- Charles L. "Chuck" Bach, President
865-414-0313/1wxman1@gmail.com

GALLATIN

Wednesday, December 12, 2018, Noon

Gallatin Public Library, East Main Street

- Luncheon: Chapter members please bring a dish

Ronnie "Blue" Monday, President

614-325-3097/ronniemonday@att.net

HUNTSVILLE

December 13, 2018, 10 a.m.

*First Baptist Church, East Entrance Door,
Code 53158, Parlor Meeting Room,
600 Governors Drive*

- Guest Speaker: Charles Spencer, Tennessee Valley Robotics, plus robotics demonstration

Betty Fischer, President

256-830-0528/zharv@bellsouth.net

JACKSON

December 12, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

*St. John's Masonic Lodge,
1341 North Highland Ave.*

- Christmas Program

Alan Campbell, President

731-988-8814/abcjax@eplus.net

JOHNSONVILLE

December 13, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

Country Western Steakhouse, Camden, Tenn.

- Christmas Program
- Election of 2019 officers
- Bring a can for food pantry

Randall W. Clark, President

731-584-7629/rwclark29@charter.net

KINGSTON

December 10, 2018, 10.30 a.m.

*Kingston Community Center,
201 Patton Ferry Road*

- Program: TBD

Marcus C. Melton Jr., President

865-388-3919/mcmelton@nxs.net

KNOXVILLE

December 13, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

The Foundry at World's Fair Park

- Annual Holiday Luncheon (\$10 per person)
- RSVP by **Dec. 3** to 865-632-4323 or send email to sjbryson@tva.gov
- Guest Speakers: Pat Brackett, Executive Secretary, TVA Retirement System; Justin Maierhofer, Vice President, TVA Government Relations

Vickie L. Ellis, President

865-805-1512/vllellis@aol.com

MEMPHIS

December 17, 2018, 11 a.m.

*Dale's Restaurant, 1226 Main St.,
Southaven, Miss.*

- Discuss minutes from Nov. 1 TVARA Board Meeting

David L. Teuton, President

901-212-3822/davidteuton@yahoo.com

MISSISSIPPI

December 11, 2018, 10 a.m.

*Tupelo TVA Customer Service Center,
3197 Brooks Road, Belden, Miss*

- 2019 membership dues can be paid at meeting
- Lunch \$5 per person; RSVP to 662-231-5561 by **Dec. 4**

- Program: Robotics demonstration involving local students and Charley Spencer, Tennessee Valley Robotics

Tim Meeks, President

256-366-2530/meekstim100@yahoo.com

MUSCLE SHOALS

December 12, 10:00 a.m. CST

*TVA Community Credit Union, Conference Room,
1409 Wilson Dam Road (Lunch will be provided by TVACCU)*

- Updates from Retirement Services, TVA Employee Benefits

- Christmas Entertainment

Timothy "Tim" Cornelius, President

256-757-5220/timwcornelius1@gmail.com

NASHVILLE

December 12, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

*Piccadilly Cafeteria Meeting Room,
874 Murfreesboro Pike*

- Agenda: Annual Christmas Dinner provided for all members and one guest each
- Collection of 2019 membership dues
- Election of chapter officers for 2019
- Door prizes

Charles P. Smith Jr., President

931-381-0255/charlesjewel@charter.net

NORTHEAST ALABAMA

Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 11 a.m.

Mud Creek Restaurant, Hollywood, Ala.

- Luncheon and discuss issues

Larry A. Hancock, President

256-437-8220/lah35773@gmail.com

PADUCAH

December 18, 2018, 10 a.m.

Pizza Inn, Joe Clifton Drive

- Guest Speaker: Pat Brackett, TVARS Executive Secretary

- Door prizes

Ken Dickerson, President

270-442-9539/kenneth.dickerson@comcast.net

PARADISE

December 11, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

Powderly Catfish Dock

- Program: Discuss Nov. 1 TVARA Board Meeting
- Select families and organizations and help them with Christmas
- Elect officers for 2019

Gary Southerland, President

270-526-3451/glsouth@bellsouth.net

UPPER EAST TENNESSEE

December 19, 2018 11:30 a.m., (3rd Wednesday this year only)

*Russell Chapel AME Zion Church,
307 N. Hasson St., Rogersville, Tenn.*

- Annual Christmas Luncheon, \$15 per person
- RSVP by **Dec. 10** by calling Denver Bennett at 423-587-6505 or Steve Caldwell at 423-967-0006

- Program: Updates and officer elections

Leslie P. "Les" Bays, President

423-782-8458/Lpbays1@yahoo.com

WATTS BAR

December 10, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

*United Methodist Church, Life Center,
Spring City, Tenn.*

- Christmas Dinner, complimentary to member and guest

- Program: Christmas music

Kathleen Garrison, President

423-365-9048/eddiekathleen@bellsouth.net

WESTERN AREA

December 5, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

Lake Barkley State Resort Park

- Program: Entertainment provided by Wayne Harper

K. Renee Turnbow, President

270-205-5277/kturnbow@gmail.com

Please visit the TVARA website at mytva.org and hover your mouse over the tab "Local Chapters" to find your chapter. Click on your chapter to view meeting details and announcements.



The Tennessee Valley Authority
Retirees Association
400 West Summit Hill Drive WT 8C-K
Knoxville, TN 37902

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TVARA Website, Email Addresses

Have you visited the TVARA website lately? The web address is mytvara.org. You will find information about chapter meetings, volunteer opportunities, membership, and healthcare information, as well as other news of value.

We will be sending emails to all members from time to time concerning invitations to chapter meetings, volunteer opportunities, the TVA Retiree Appreciation Picnic, Membership Dues Notices, and other important information.

Please update your address book with the following email addresses from the TVARA Staff:

Reba Whitson — rjwhitson@mytvara.org
Jean Bryson — sjbryson@mytvara.org
Richard Wilson — rtwilson@mytvara.org

Dues Notices For 2019 in Mail Next Month

The TVA Retirees Association will mail Dues Notices for 2019 to home addresses during the first week of January 2019.

Dues Notices will be mailed to those who have not paid dues for 2019, but have paid in the past three years.

You will not receive a Dues Notice if you have already paid dues for 2019 or beyond.

In addition to the mailed copy of the Dues Notice, you will also receive a Dues Notice by email if you have not paid membership dues for 2019. This is a new process, and it is hoped someday TVARA can replace mailing a paper copy of the Dues Notice and send an email only.

The expiration date for your TVARA membership (and accompanying subscription to this newsletter) is shown on the mailing label on this

page, immediately above your name.

The Dues Notice envelope has an outside top flap that contains your Membership ID and your name and address. The inside top flap contains the reminder to pay your dues for 2019 by submitting a check for \$15 made payable to TVARA.

You can request a **membership card** by enclosing a **self-addressed, stamped envelope**.

Detach the outside/inside flap along the perforated lines and insert in the enclosed envelope, along with your check (**do not send cash**), and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a new membership card. If you want your spouse to become a member, please include his or her name and payment with your dues.

If you have not paid dues in the **past three years** and would like to become

a member, write a \$15 check made payable to TVARA and mail to the following address:

TVA Retirees Association
400 West Summit Hill Drive
WT 8C-K
Knoxville TN 37902-9901

Civil Service Retirees can also become members of TVARA. They can do so by writing a check for \$15 made payable to TVARA and mailing to the above address.

Thank you for your continued support.

Online Option for Paying Dues

Did you know you can pay your membership dues through your local bank and/or credit union? Go to page 7 or to mytvara.org/membership/ for step-by-step instructions.