SINCE 1967 JUNE 2026

TVARA NEWS

The TVA Retirees Association

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

Summertime, and the living is busy throughout Valley

By VICKIE ELLIS, TVARA Valleywide President


VICKIE ELLIS

As we move into another beautiful Tennessee Valley summer, I want to take a moment to reflect on the season of transition and gratitude ahead of us.

Summer always brings warmer weather and opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. I encourage everyone to take appropriate precautions — stay hydrated, be mindful of heat advisories, and check on neighbors and loved ones as temperatures rise.

I also want to express my heartfelt thanks for the volunteer spirit and philanthropy happening across many of our chapters. The hours you dedicate, the causes you support, and the communities you strengthen embody the very best of who we are. Your service is noticed, and it truly makes a difference.

As you look ahead on your calendars, please take note of the annual TVA Retiree Appreciation Luncheon on Sept. 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the Chattanooga Convention Center. We hope to see many of you there, as we gather to reconnect and celebrate our shared history. Registration will be from June 1 through Aug. 21. See the back page of this newsletter for online registration information. No walk-ins will be allowed this year, and we are not taking phone reservations.

Finally, a quick reminder about our newsletter distribution. If we have your email address, you will receive this newsletter electronically. If you prefer a printed copy, please contact Richard Wilson at rtwilson@tva.gov to request one.

Upon the retirement of TVA Chief Executive Officer/President Don Moul, TVA has hired Mike Skaggs as his interim replacement. Mike has extensive TVA experience and appreciates the TVA mission. Many of our members worked with Mike during their time at TVA, and we are thrilled that he is returning to lead TVA at this critical time.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. I look forward to what the coming months will bring for our TVARA family.

TVARS stays stable, despite mixed markets

By HAYLEY HUSKEY
Manager, TVA Retirement Financial Reporting

As of March 31, 2026, the TVA Retirement System remained in a strong financial position. Pension-fund assets continue to demonstrate stability, supported by consistent contributions and long-term investment performance. Pension-fund assets are estimated at about $8.4 billion, with the funded status approaching 90%.

The TVARS 401(k) Plan also remained stable through the first quarter of 2026, reflecting ongoing member participation, while navigating volatile market conditions. The plan ended in March with a net-asset value of about $5.5 billion.

Global markets were mixed during the early part of the year, with U.S. equities experiencing periods of volatility, international markets showing selective strength, and fixed income continuing to adjust to evolving interest-rate expectations.

Despite these short-term fluctuations, TVARS portfolios remained broadly diversified and strategically positioned to support member retirement security over the long term. The Retirement System's focus continues to be mitigating risk and promoting stability across assets.

Beginning Feb. 27, 2026, the MFS International Equity Fund and the BlackRock Large-Cap Value Strategy Fund were added to the 401(k) Plan lineup. These funds replaced the Harding Loevner International Equity Fund and the T. Rowe Price Large-Cap Value Fund.

MFS, a well-known investment-and-asset-management firm, became the provider of

Continued on page 12

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

TVARA — The TVA Retirees Association — Since 1967

TVARA VALLEYWIDE OFFICERS

Vickie Ellis
President
Jo Anne Lavender
Immediate Past President
Les Bays
Vice President
Kathryn Davis
Secretary
Lisa Overly
Treasurer
Penny Walker
Volunteer Coordinator
Richard T. Wilson Jr.
Membership Program Manager

***TVARA NEWS* STAFF**

Suzan Bowman
Editor
Email: sebowman@tva.gov
Jim Andrews
Contributing Editor
Email: patjimandrews@aol.com

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING:

TVA Retirement System Benefits
Email: tvars@tva.gov
Phone: 800-824-3870, toll-free
Online: tvars.com

Retiree or Beneficiary Death Notification
Notify the TVA Retirement System by email or phone.

Fidelity 401(k) Plan
Phone: 800-354-7121, toll-free
Online: nb.fidelity.com/public/nb/tva/home

BNY Mellon Payments
Phone: 844-545-1256, toll-free
Online: tvars.com/retirees, click on BNY Mellon link.

Change of Address
Notify BNY Mellon by using the back of any BNY Mellon statement. The address-change form also can be found online at tvars.com/retirees.

Medical and Drug Coverage
Call Blue Cross Blue Shield (medical)
toll-free at 800-245-7942
Call Express Scripts (drug)
toll-free at 800-935-6203
Or call People First Solution Center
toll-free at 888-275-8094
Over 65? Call Via Benefits
(formerly OneExchange) toll-free at 866-322-2824

TVARA Membership
Contact Richard T. Wilson at rtwilson@tva.gov or call him at 865-632-8542

***TVARA News* Information**
Contact tvara@tva.gov or call Terri Welty at 865-632-3318 or toll-free at 877-335-1222
TVARA's Web address is mytvara.org

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.

TVA NEWS & NOTES

The following news items were provided by Liberty Phillips, TVA Communications:

Introducing *The Powerhouse*

In late 2024, TVA launched *The Powerhouse*, a digital newsletter for stories about TVA's mission of service, its energy innovations, and the positive impact it makes across the Tennessee Valley region.

The new monthly newsletter builds on that work. Each issue features five curated stories covering its mission, its communities, and timeless TVA moments — all in one place.

Every story in *The Powerhouse* is part of TVA's shared mission. These stories belong to everyone who is or has been part of TVA. By reading, subscribing, and sharing, TVA people can help others understand how TVA is building America's energy future and supporting the region they call home.

As TVA invests in the region's energy future, it's important for our communities to understand the work TVA is doing and why it matters. Subscribing to the current version of *The Powerhouse* and encouraging others to subscribe is one small action that can make a big difference.

Subscription links can be found on TVA.com/the-powerhouse and inside each newsletter. If someone shares the newsletter with you, you can also use the "Sign Up" link directly in the email to join the list.


Cumberland Fossil Plant


Kingston Fossil Plant

What's Next for Coal?


Michael Bottorff

The TVA Board has announced steps to continue operations at Kingston and Cumberland fossil plants and authorized TVA to operate those units beyond their current retirement dates, pending future permitting activities. Here, TVA Coal Operations Vice President Michael Bottorff discusses the decision:

How did you feel when you heard this was possible?

I'm grateful the coal fleet has the support of the federal administration and the TVA Board. I am happy for the employees, their families, and the communities they serve. Director Wade White thanked the nearly 900 employees at TVA coal plants by stating, "We value you, we need you, and we are more than grateful for your commitment to TVA's nearly 93-year-old mission."

Why is this important to TVA?

As we look at TVA's load growth, the coal fleet is absolutely critical in meeting rising power demands we didn't expect years ago — when the Board originally decided to replace the coal units with gas generation — especially during summer and winter peaks like the recent Winter Storm Fern. Coal's being online helps us to safely build additional generation. And with rapidly rising power demand, we are seeing more and more peak days where we need reliable and flexible generation to keep the power on.

Running these units means a lot to the local communities. I've spent seven years of my career working in the coal industry, and I know firsthand the challenges of keeping these units online. But it's for the benefit of the entire Valley region — it means the power comes on when

Continued on page 12

Connecting Valley Leaders, Washington Officials

By BEVIN TAYLOR, TVA Vice President, Government Relations

BEVIN TAYLOR

As happens each year, Spring has brought a flurry of stakeholder visits to Washington and meetings with policymakers. These are fruitful opportunities to engage with administration officials and members of the TVA Congressional Delegation on the Hill, and time for TVA and its partners to work closely together on important issues impacting the Tennessee Valley.

TVA Continues To Showcase Advanced Nuclear Leadership

In separate April visits, TVA hosted U.S. Department of Energy officials at the Clinch River Site. In early April, TVA leaders hosted Tim Walsh, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, and Ankur Bansal, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, on a tour of the site. The visit included a discussion on ways to collaborate on power growth in the region and enabling data center and AI infrastructure buildout, while protecting TVA's rate base. Later in the month, Department of Energy Deputy Secretary James Danly visited with TVA leaders at the site, following an engagement at the nearby Kairos Power site. It was a good opportunity to update Danly, an adopted Tennessean, on TVA's plans to build more reliable, affordable American energy.

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management Tim Walsh (eighth from left), with TVA leaders at the Clinch River Site

Back in Washington, Scott Hunnewell, Vice President of TVA's New Nuclear Program, served on a "Nuclear 101" panel at a meeting of the U.S. House Western Caucus. The caucus focuses on rural issues, including those in the TVA region. Hunnewell's discussion was part of a look at new nuclear-energy issues.

Customers Visit Washington

February kicked off the spring fly-in season, a time when customers visit Washington and meet with members on Capitol Hill. The American Public Power Association held its annual legislative fly-in for members in late February. TVA's Director Art Graham, Director Wade White, and Director Randy Jones joined for meetings on Capitol Hill and a reception TVA hosted for local power companies and congressional staff members.

April brought a group of TVA large customers from the Tennessee Valley Industrial Committee to visit with members from across the delegation. They joined TVA for a dinner on one evening during their time in town. Later in the month, leaders from Valley electric co-ops visited as part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual fly-in. TVA hosted a reception attended by Tennessee Valley co-op leaders including Mike Partin, NRECA Board of Directors President and Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative President/Chief Executive Officer.

The remaining months of spring into summer have continued to be busy, as Congress actively works through important legislative items with an eye on campaigning ahead of November's mid-term election.

CYBERNOTES – *Gone phishing?*

Phishing is described on the internet as "a cyberthreat where scammers impersonate a trustworthy source and trick you into revealing sensitive data" on your computer. Phishing scams have a long history of spreading malware, stealing information, and swindling people out of money.

How To Spot Phishing Attacks:

- Are you familiar with the sender?
- Does the message contain poor grammar or misspelled words?
- Are there any suspicious links or unexpected attachments?
- Does the message offer unrealistic promises, like large sums of money?
- Does it plead with you to click on a link, download something, or send personal information?
- Does it threaten you by saying an account has been hacked or that you face legal action?

If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, then you've identified one or several red flags that the email is a scam.

If you're ever in doubt, reach out to the sender of the email directly by phone (if possible) to confirm its legitimacy. It's always important to remember to think before you click.

Make healthy choices with Via Benefits

By JENNIFER BECKETT
Program Manager, Benefits & Well-Being

TVA has teamed up with Via Benefits Insurance Services to help you feel confident about choosing your Medicare coverage.

Via Benefits knows Medicare inside and out, and its representatives make it easy to understand. With helpful online tools and friendly support from licensed benefit advisors, you'll have everything you need to find a plan that works for your health and your budget.

Via Benefits is not an insurance company — it's actually the country's biggest Medicare marketplace, offering top plans from national and local providers. Whether Medicare feels confusing or you just want someone in your corner, Via Benefits makes the process smoother, simpler, and a lot less stressful.

Medicare Open Enrollment only happens once a year, but Via Benefits is here for you year-round. Whether you're new to Via Benefits or not, you have access to the answers you need, when you need them, with its helpful website my.viabenefits.com/tva or by calling Via Benefits toll-free at 844-620-5725.

Here are a few ways to make the most of your Via Benefits experience:

- **Update Your Via Benefits Profile.** Keep your doctors and medications up to date. This information powers comprehensive plan-recommendation tools. The Coverage Checkup feature helps individuals currently enrolled in a Prescription Drug Plan or Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug Plan see personalized recommendations. You can review your results during the Open Enrollment Period, which begins Oct. 15, 2026.
- **Stay in Touch.** Via Benefits will reach out throughout the year with important information and with helpful newsletters called "the groove." Not sure if you're receiving notifications? Visit your Via Benefits account, then look for the Permission to Contact You section.
- **Go Mobile.** If you're eligible for the Health Reimbursement Arrangement, the Via Benefits mobile app makes it simple to manage your account on the go. You can submit claims, upload receipts, check your balance, and track reimbursements — all from your phone.

Reminder: TVA partnering with Fidelity for 2026 Health Savings Accounts

By SANDIE SMITH, Program Manager, Benefits & Well-being

Effective Jan. 1, 2026, TVA partnered with Fidelity Investments to provide Health Savings Accounts for employees and retirees. An HSA can help you save for and pay qualified medical expenses for yourself, your spouse, and dependents.

Why the change from HSA Bank to Fidelity?

- No annual account fees
- No minimum cash balance required to invest
- More investment options
- Higher interest rates on cash balances

Are you eligible for a TVA HSA?

You may qualify if:

- You are covered by a TVA HSA-eligible plan (CDHP Gold or CDHP Silver
- You are not enrolled in Medicare (Part A or B), Medicaid, TRICARE, or CHIP
- You or your spouse are not enrolled in a healthcare flexible spending account
- You cannot be claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return

If eligible and you haven't opened your Fidelity HSA, you may miss out on TVA's 2026 employer contribution.

TVA will make an Employer Contribution to eligible participant accounts that have been opened with Fidelity. Contributions will be equivalent to $600 for the CDHP Gold and $450 for the CDHP Silver for individual coverage and $1,200 for CDHP Gold and $900 for CDHP Silver for family coverage. Family coverage consists of the retiree and one other dependent (spouse or child).

How to Enroll

1. Call HR Support Services at 888-275-8094 to authorize TVA to enroll you in the HSA program.
2. Provide a current email address, so Fidelity can send registration instructions.
3. After receiving the Fidelity email, visit netbenefits.com and register as a new user to open your HSA.

Questions?

Call Fidelity HSA Support toll-free: 800-544-3716.

Need to reach out to TVA about medical, dental benefits?

TVA's Benefits & Well-Being team members are there to help answer any questions you may have. You can reach them by email at benefits@tva.gov or by calling 888-275-8094 toll-free and pressing "1" for Benefits. Hours of operations are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.–3 p.m. ET and Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m. ET.

 By PENNY WALKER, TVARA Valleywide Volunteer Coordinator

New year, same community outreach from chapters

Going into 2026, TVARA chapters across the Tennessee Valley continued their involvement in reaching out within their respective communities.

Six chapters gave a total of $50,000, enabling seven different agencies to continue providing much-needed services to local areas. The funds once again were made available to TVARA by Bicentennial Volunteers Inc., as part of that organization's continued effort to assist TVA retirees' efforts in community outreach.

TVARA's **Chattanooga Chapter** received $3,000 for use in building ramps for the disabled. The funds were donated to Neighborhood Helpers, a group of individuals who provide volunteer labor to construct ramps throughout the Chattanooga/Hamilton County area. TVA retirees make up a large portion of the NH members. The group works in conjunction with United Cerebral Palsy and local churches to identify some of the recipients, while word of mouth produces others. Of the 52 ramps NH built in 2025, only five were for individuals who could afford to purchase the building materials. Regardless of how a ramp is funded, NH provides the labor at no cost.


Chattanooga TVARA Chapter member Curtis Jones cuts lumber for a ramp build.

The **Gallatin Chapter** assisted Hands of Hope, a small volunteer-run agency in Portland, Tenn. The organization operates a facility for low-income, less-fortunate individuals. Hands of Hope not only operates a food pantry, it also provides toiletries, diapers, medical supplies, and assistance in securing housing, if necessary. There are no paid employees – it is fully operated by volunteers, who include several TVA retirees. Gallatin was given $4,000 to assist this group.

The **Knoxville Chapter** sponsored an initiative for local veterans. The Operation Hero's Hill project addresses veteran homelessness with the development of a tiny-home village. The plan is to build 20 tiny homes, along with a central community center that will include a computer lab, laundry, and meeting space. The Knoxville retiree members will be responsible for providing all necessary kitchen items for each home. This will include basic and preferred items such as coffeemakers, cooking pots/pans, dishes, etc. The chapter was awarded $4,000 for this project.


Mississippi Chapter members present check to Mission Men in West Point, Miss.

Two projects in which **Mississippi Chapter** members are involved will receive financial support. In Tupelo, Hope Unbridled was given $6,000 to assist in the nonprofit therapeutic horseback-riding and equine-assisted activities. The organization strives to bring hope to individuals of all abilities and circumstances, and it serves all people, especially individuals with physical, emotional, or cognitive health issues. A wide spectrum of equine therapy is employed at the facility. Several chapter members volunteer at the organization. The financial assistance offered by the Mississippi Chapter will help with the day-to-day care of the eight horses used in the various programs. This will include food and medical expenses.

Mission Men, in West Point, Miss., offers a faith-and-community-based approach to transforming the lives of addicts. It is a yearlong residential program. The program is self-pay, and each man is required to have a job. This provides a strong work ethic, while helping participants fund their own recovery. The Mississippi Chapter's contribution of $4,000 will be used to provide food support, personal-care supplies, intake packages, bedding, and curriculum/education materials.

The **Muscle Shoals Chapter** once again is sponsoring the annual garden-seed program for the counties of Colbert,

Continued on page 12


The Muscle Shoals Chapter's telephone-answering group that registers participants in the annual garden-seed program includes, from left, Delores Huzar, Joan Marsh, Carol Sherer, Anita and Greg Vandiver, Robert Atwell, and Billy Baggett. Not pictured is Lile Bickley.

IRMAA: The Sneaky Surcharge That Thinks Your Happy Retirement Party Is Too Loud

By LES BAYS

Ah, retirement. The golden years. You finally get to slow down, travel a bit, maybe even master that TV remote and the timer on the microwave oven. And just when you think you've sidestepped most of life's little financial surprises, along comes something called IRMAA — an acronym that sounds harmless enough until it quietly starts costing you money.

We always heard the rule of thumb: "If you believe you'll be in a lower tax bracket when you retire, save in a pre-tax 401(k) and IRA. If you think you'll be in a higher tax bracket when you retire, save in a Roth." I don't recall anyone telling us in the early 2000s, when our government implemented IRMAA, that the rule of thumb should be modified to consider income taxes AND these surcharges.

IRMAA stands for Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, which is Medicare's polite way of saying, "Hey, you did pretty well this year — so your premiums are going up." If your income crosses certain thresholds, you'll pay more for Medicare Part B and Part D. And just to keep things interesting, those premiums aren't based on what you're making now — they're based on what you made two years ago.

So, your 2024 income is what determines your 2026 Medicare costs. It's like a financial rearview mirror that still somehow manages to hit you head-on.

Where people really get tripped up is how those income thresholds work. They aren't gradual. There's no gentle slope upward. Instead, they're more like cliffs. Go even a dollar over the line, and suddenly you're bumped into the next tier with higher premiums. It's less of a nudge and more of a trapdoor.

The IRMAA thresholds are based on two-year-old Modified Adjust Gross Income (MAGI), while federal income tax brackets are based on taxable income of the tax year. The difference between the two is mostly your standard or itemized deductions, which are applied to reduce federal tax, but not IRMAA thresholds.

A lot of the usual retirement-income sources can push you into those higher brackets without your even realizing it at first. Required minimum distributions (RMDs), for example, start kicking in at a certain age, forcing you to pull money out of your pre-tax retirement accounts whether you need it or not. That added income can increase your taxes and bump you into higher IRMAA territory at the same time — kind of a double hit.

Then there are capital gains. Selling an investment you've held for a while might feel like a smart move, but that gain can count toward your income and could trigger higher Medicare premiums. Timing really matters here, because one big taxable sale in a single year can affect your Medicare costs two years later. If the gain is large enough, you might also run into the Net Investment Income Tax, which most people have never even heard about. NIIT is an extra 3.8% tax layered on top over certain income levels.

Roth conversions are another interesting piece of the puzzle. Done strategically, they can be incredibly helpful long-term. But in the short term they increase your taxable income, which can push you into IRMAA territory. That doesn't mean you should avoid them — it just means they need to be planned carefully, ideally during lower-income years.

Strategic planning for Roth conversions can really help retirees in years prior to turning age 63, since that is where the IRMAA two-year lookback period would begin for someone planning to start Medicare at age 65. Before the tax year you turn 63, you might just look at the chart showing the federal income tax brackets, without having to worry about impacting IRMAA those years. People might want to use the "fill up your tax bracket" method of Roth conversions. Discuss this with your financial adviser.

Even one-time events — like selling a business, a property, or receiving a large bonus — can create a temporary spike in income that triggers IRMAA. The frustrating part is that Medicare doesn't really care that it was a one-time thing. The good news is that if the spike was tied to a major life change, like retirement or the loss of a spouse, you may be able to appeal and have your premiums adjusted. The major life changes are listed on the appeal form SSA-44.

The good folks who run Medicare should let you know by mail late in each calendar year if they plan to charge your IRMAA surcharges in the following year. You might want to log onto medicare.gov toward the end of the year to see if they have those plans for you, if you don't trust snail mail any more than I do.

Filing status plays a major role. Married couples filing jointly get higher income thresholds, which gives them a bit more breathing room. Single filers hit those limits much sooner. If someone is recently widowed, this can come as a tough surprise — suddenly the same income is being measured against much lower thresholds, which can lead to higher taxes and higher Medicare premiums at the same time.

All of this is why planning ahead really matters. One of the simplest strategies is smoothing out your income — avoiding big spikes by spreading things like withdrawals, Roth conversions, and asset sales over multiple years. Think of it like pacing yourself instead of cramming everything into one season.

Roth accounts can also be a powerful tool here. Withdrawals from Roth IRAs don't count toward your income for IRMAA purposes, which makes them incredibly valuable in retirement. They're one of the few ways to generate income without it "showing up" on that Medicare radar. Remember that there are several "five-year rules" for Roth accounts. If you've never had a Roth account, you could start one with a small amount of Roth conversion, and it will start one of the five-year clocks ticking for purposes of future withdrawals.

If you're charitably inclined, qualified charitable distributions can also help. By donating directly from your IRA, you can satisfy your RMDs without increasing your taxable income or MAGI, which can keep you below those IRMAA thresholds.

You must be at least 70½ years old. This is a strategy where "you don't handle the check." It should go directly from your account to the eligible charity (church, foundation, etc.), so that you don't pay taxes on it and it doesn't add to your MAGI. Again, discuss this with your financial adviser and/or brokerage.

Another key piece is simply being intentional about where your withdrawals come from. Pulling money from the wrong account at the wrong time can unnecessarily increase your income. A coordinated approach — using a mix of taxable, tax-deferred, and Roth accounts — can help keep taxes and Medicare premiums in check.

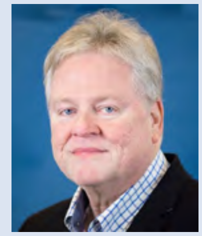
Of course, sometimes IRMAA is just unavoidable. Even with the best planning, there are years when your income will land you in a higher tier. When that happens, the goal shifts from avoiding it entirely to managing how much it impacts you — trying not to jump into a higher bracket than necessary and thinking in terms of multiyear strategies instead of just one year at a time.

And that brings us to the bigger picture. As frustrating as IRMAA can be, it shouldn't drive every financial decision. Avoiding it at all costs can sometimes backfire — like skipping a smart Roth conversion now, only to face much larger required distributions (and higher premiums) later. Sometimes paying a little more today can save you quite a bit down the road.

Nearing the end of this article, if you read this far, it's time to let you know this: IRMAA is likely to affect only a minority of TVA retirees. Nationwide, if reportedly affects only around 8% of the people on Medicare. I would guess TVA retirees are a higher percentage than that, due to most having a pension with COLA, Social Security with COLA, and often pre-tax 401(k) and IRA balances to be taxed on the IRS's schedule because of RMDs. It's also true that a lot of TVA retirees continue working as contractors and perhaps business owners.

One concern I have for retirees is a transition from joint filers to widowed filers, often with the same pension income,

Les Bays is TVARA's Vice President and Upper East Tennessee Chapter President. He worked at John Sevier Fossil Plant for 33 years, served on the Engineering Association/IFPTE Valley-Wide Executive Committee, and was on the TVA Retirement System Board.



Les Bays

This article is for educational purposes only. It is not financial, tax, or legal advice. Everyone's situation is different, and IRMAA planning can get complex quickly. Use this and the two charts on the linking page as a conversation-starter with your financial, tax professional, or retirement planner — preferably someone who speaks fluent acronym.

the larger Social Security income, but still the same 401(k) and IRA balances to have to pay taxes on at some point. Compare the joint filer chart to the single filer's chart (click **here** for charts) and you can see how it could easily affect a single widow or widower who avoided IRMAA when filing jointly, but is now in a higher single tax bracket and is at a greater risk of paying IRMAA surcharges or a higher tier of these surcharges.

Concluding, IRMAA is just one piece of a much larger puzzle. It's complicated, extremely annoying, and, yes, it can feel like a penalty for doing well. But with some thoughtful planning, you can reduce how often it comes into play and limit how much it affects you if and when it does.

Please don't take my word for it. I am certainly not legally qualified to give financial advice. I did create the two charts and invite you to try to find any mistake and let me know what you found.

THIS IS A GREAT TOPIC YOU SHOULD TALK THROUGH WITH A FINANCIAL AND/OR TAX ADVISER, ideally one who can translate all these acronyms into plain English without making your head spin. You may want to print the article's single and joint charts and take them with you and see if they can explain them, if needed.

For example, "Do I want to Roth-convert up the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) starting point (extra $6,000 Senior deduction for four years), or the top of the 12%, 22%, or 24% bracket? Do we dare anticipate what the IRMAA MAGI tier trigger points will be two years hence in order to reduce surcharges in future years?" How would they advise you?

Final note: The single and joint charts I prepared show the 2026 Federal Tax Brackets at the bottom, the OBBBA extra $6,000 Senior deduction (2026 MAGI) phaseout range, the IRMAA trigger points from MAGI from 2024, then the IRMAA surcharge tiers and exact extra amounts being paid in 2026

Continued on page 12

A Throwback, Windows-Down, Summer Road Trip

By JULIE GRAHAM, **Explore Tennessee River Valley**

Before air conditioning was standard in every home and car, summer meant something simpler — rolling the windows down, packing up the station wagon or hitching up one of those shiny early Airstream campers and heading for the mountains in search of cool air and quiet, star-filled nights.

That spirit is still alive in the eastern reaches of the Tennessee River Valley, where the Great Smoky Mountains and Blue Ridge Mountains rise up in soft blue layers. While places like Gatlinburg and Sevierville stay busy all summer, there are still pockets where time slows down — where you can hear the creek, watch the fireflies, and take the long way on purpose.

If you're craving a road trip that feels more like a throwback than a getaway, these "elevated" destinations invite you to settle in, unplug, and rediscover the journey.

Cosby, the Quiet Side of the Smokies – Tucked away on the lesser-traveled edge of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cosby, Tenn., feels like stepping back in time. This is where you park the RV without hookups, let the nights go dark, and wake up to birds instead of alarms. At Cosby Campground, you'll find roomy, shaded sites and a kind of quiet that's getting harder to come by. Spend your days hiking the Low Gap Trail up toward the Appalachian Trail, or chasing waterfalls like Hen Wallow Falls.

Wears Valley, a Peaceful Middle Ground – Set between Townsend and the attractions of Sevierville, East Tennessee's Wears Valley offers the best of both worlds. Spend the day exploring, then retreat to mountain views and evening breezes at Cove Creek RV Resort. It's the kind of place where mornings are slow, coffee tastes better outside, and the mountains never feel crowded.

Tellico Plains, the Scenic Long Way – If the journey is the destination, it doesn't get much better than the Cherohala Skyway. Starting in Tellico Plains, Tenn., this mile-high drive winds through the Cherokee National Forest, with overlooks that practically demand you pull over and stay awhile. At the top, Indian Boundary Lake feels like a hidden summer camp — complete with a swim beach, paddling, and shaded campsites. Or settle into a cabin and spend your days exploring the Bald River Falls loop, fishing the Tellico River, or simply following the road wherever it leads. Pack a picnic. Stay longer than you planned.

Blue Ridge, Water, Woods, and Wandering – In Blue Ridge, Ga., summer days revolve around the water. Launch a kayak on Lake Blue Ridge, wade into cool mountain streams near McCaysville and Copperhill, or try your hand at fly fishing on the Toccoa River. Set up camp at Morganton Point Recreation Area, where your front door opens to the lake and the pace of the day is entirely up to you.

Fontana Village, Edge of the Wild – On the quieter "back side" of the Smokies, Fontana Lake is bordered by deep forest and mountain ridges. Fontana Village is both a basecamp and a step back in time, where you can unplug, explore, and ease into the rhythm of the mountains.

This summer, take the road trip that doesn't rush. Roll the windows down. Follow the curves. Stay in places where the stars still show up at night, because sometimes the best destinations aren't the busiest. They're the ones that let you slow down long enough to remember why you left in the first place.

Wherever the road takes you, there's something happening. Discover summer events along the way or explore more at ExploreTRV.com:

June

6 — National Cave and Karst Day, Russell Cave National Monument, Ala.: Guided hike and exhibition.
12 — Bio Blitz at Muscle Shoals Trails, Muscle Shoals, Ala.: Celebrate National Trails Month.
12-13 — Tellico Trout Festival, Tellico Plains, Tenn.: Angling demonstrations, live music, vendors-free.
13 — Bluff Mountain Festival, Hot Springs, N.C.: Bluegrass, clogging, and art market.
13 — Dunlap Coke Ovens Bluegrass Festival, Dunlap, Tenn.: Live music, pickin', festival seating.
13 — Sundrop Fest, Pulaski, Tenn.: Live music, antique-car cruise-in, food, and craft vendors.
19-20 — Smoky Mountain Quilters Show, Knoxville, Tenn.: Exhibits, demonstrations, juried show.
20 — Lavender Festival, Oak Ridge Tenn.: Celebration of health, herbs, and the environment.
25-28 — Helen Keller Festival, Tuscumbia, Ala.: Live music, museum tours, children's activities.
27 — Chickamauga Art & Folk Festival, Chickamauga, Ga.: Folk art, demonstrations, live music, and Indigenous traditions.

July

15-27 — W.C. Handy Festival, Florence, Ala.: One of the great blues festivals in the Southeast.
17-18 — Grainger County Tomato Festival, Rutledge, Tenn.: Live music, tomato wars, and summer-warmed tomatoes from the vine.
30-8/1 — Mountain Dance and Folk Fest, Asheville, N.C.: Musicians, dancers, and storytellers.

August

8-9 — Cherokee Cultural Celebration, Red Clay State Park, Tenn.: Weekend of Cherokee dance, arts, and storytelling.
14-15 — Franklin County Watermelon Festival, Russellville, Ala.: Live music, vendors, and ice-cold watermelon.
14-16 — Georgia Mountain Fair, Hiwassee, Ga.: Live music, midway, demonstrations, exhibits.
15 — Great Smoky Mountain Balloon Festival, Townsend, Tenn.: Live music, balloon glow, tethered rides.
29 — Paducah Dragon Boat Races, Paducah, Ky.: Team races, vendors, children's activities.

The Tennessee River Valley Stewardship Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting stewardship, economic vitality, and tourism across the seven-state Tennessee River Valley watershed. The council works to connect communities and visitors through initiatives that celebrate the region's diverse landscapes, history, and culture. The council's efforts are made possible through the generous support of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

TVA veterans represent Valley at D.C. event

By SCOTT ANDRESEN

Members of the TVA Veterans Association (TVAVA) joined industry peers from across the country in February at the Veterans in Energy Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., contributing to a national dialog on leadership, workforce development, and the essential role veterans play in the energy sector.

From left, representing TVA at the 2026 Veterans in Energy Leadership Conference were Dustin Wright, Michael Bottorff, Greg Henrich, Michael Light, Kathryn Shepherd, Kevin Baker, Scott Andresen, Brian Shepherd, Christian Stong, and Shawn Forrest.

The annual conference brought together leaders from utilities, national laboratories, and energy organizations to highlight how military experience continues to shape and strengthen the industry. For TVA's attendees, it was an opportunity to learn, collaborate, and bring meaningful insights back to the Tennessee Valley region.

TVA's strong support for veterans was on full display during the event. Greg Henrich, TVA Senior Vice President of Transmission, represented the organization on a grid-modernization panel, participating in discussions on how energy providers can adapt to growing demands, while maintaining reliability and resilience. His input was especially appreciated by TVAVA.

Dusty Wright, TVAVA Communications Chair, expressed gratitude for TVA's continued sponsorship of the event and emphasized the importance of veteran representation across the industry.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to attend this year's conference for many reasons," Wright said. "It provided a valuable chance to network with and learn from fellow veterans across TVA, as well as connect with veterans from other organizations in the industry.

"It was truly encouraging to hear how companies within the power sector actively seek out veterans because they recognize the value of our commitment, work ethic, and adaptability — qualities shaped both through our service and throughout our careers."

For many attendees, hearing how other companies support veterans in their transition to civilian careers was especially meaningful. TVAVA President Kevin Baker noted how refreshing it was to hear organizations across the nation talk openly about challenges familiar to those in the Tennessee Valley, emphasizing that the structure and shared experiences among veterans help them integrate effectively into business environments.

Flight 38 a long-awaited, much-appreciated honor

By CHARLIE BEAN

Consider this a personal salute from one old Marine grateful for being part of HonorAir Knoxville's final flight, which was made in April.

Charlie Bean

HonorAir Knoxville undoubtedly has been one of the greatest organizations ever serving Knoxville and the surrounding area. Since its beginning in 2007, it flew 38 missions, transporting more than 4,600 veterans from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam to our nation's capital to visit the monuments honoring their military service.

During our trip, we watched the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. On the way back to Reagan National Airport, we traveled along Pennsylvania Avenue and Constitution Avenue, passing the White House, the Capitol, the U.S. Treasury, Homeland Security's headquarters, and other landmarks.

The weather was perfect, the flights both ways were smooth, and the entire day — in the eyes of the veterans — was flawless.

One of the highlights of each flight was "Mail Call." Each veteran received a large envelope containing about 20 letters from family members, schoolchildren, and others, expressing their gratitude for our service.

I wasn't sure how I would react upon arriving home. All the veterans knew there would be a "Welcome Home" celebration in the McGhee Tyson Airport terminal. We Vietnam veterans had never received a proper welcome home — we were largely forgotten and ignored. But not this time.

I am still in awe of the recognition we received upon our return. Hundreds of people lined the hallway outside our gate. People of all ages showed up because they care about veterans. I have never shaken so many hands or hugged so many strangers at one event in my life.

It was wonderful. It was genuine, heartfelt, and deeply appreciated. I have now officially been welcomed home from Vietnam.

I will forever be grateful to HonorAir Knoxville for recognizing and honoring so many veterans and for giving us the opportunity to make this trip.

(Charlie Bean is a TVA retiree who served with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969.)

In Memoriam

Jan. 26, 2026 - April 26, 2026

TVA Retirement Management received notifications of the deaths of the following retirees for the period Jan. 26, 2026, through April 26, 2026, as well as other previously unreported deaths. They are listed with the date of death (and date of retirement). **To report the death of a retiree, call the TVA Retirement System toll-free at 800-824-3870.**

Adams, Larry E.,
2/25/2026(1/3/1999)

Ashby, Jimmy L.,
3/15/2026(11/7/2009)

Baltz, George H., Jr.,
4/10/2026(11/16/1996)

Bane, Charles E.,
3/22/2026(7/7/1984)

Belk, Earl R.,
2/24/2026(10/17/1994)

Bell, Earl C.,
1/31/2026(9/4/1982)

Bellinghausen, Edward C.,
1/31/2026(12/31/1994)

Bennett, Harold E.,
3/19/2026(10/19/1991)

Billings, Sharon P.,
1/22/2026(1/5/2008)

Black, Charles E.,
2/26/2026(11/19/2011)

Blevins, Lillard W.,
3/27/2026(6/17/1989)

Bruce, Olen R.,
2/20/2026(10/17/1987)

Buis, Fred W.,
1/21/2026(4/28/1996)

Butler, Steven C.,
4/13/2026(2/1/2017)

Calbaugh, James D.,
3/7/2026(5/1/1998)

Campbell, Lindsey B.,
3/31/2026(1/5/2008)

Campbell, Patsy B.,
1/22/2026(10/1/1988)

Caraway, Winford E.,
4/9/2026(10/3/2005)

Carlock, Bobby J.,
4/2/2026(11/25/2006)

Caudle, Nuel W.,
2/18/2026(10/9/2004)

Chaney, Christopher C.,
12/31/2025(10/18/2014)

Chilcoat, Terry S.,
2/24/2026(12/23/1997)

Cigliano, Georgia N.,
4/10/2026(12/18/2004)

Clements, Larry L.,
1/29/2026(7/15/1989)

Clift, Harry A.,
2/19/2026(9/12/1986)

Coffey, Willard L.,
3/24/2026(9/30/1989)

Conley, William A.,
2/10/2026(10/17/1994)

Cook, Jerry W.,
2/3/2026(10/31/1994)

Cornett, Troy A.,
4/6/2026(5/29/1993)

Cottrell, Carl W.,
4/6/2026(7/7/1999)

Cottrell, Stephen D.,
4/16/2026(9/27/2008)

Courtney, Billy R.,
10/24/2025(4/14/2008)

Crabtree, James R.,
2/25/2026(5/9/1982)

Crossman, John S.,
11/18/2025(10/1/1988)

Curtis, Susan S.,
2/8/2026(10/1/2014)

Davis, Charles H.,
3/8/2026(2/2/1991)

Davis, Larry M.,
2/18/2026(7/8/2010)

Davis, Louise H.,
1/29/2026(1/2/1989)

Degraw, William L.,
2/23/2026(11/3/2001)

Denton, D. Lloyd,
2/12/2026(7/28/1990)

Deporter, Glenn L.,
4/7/2026(9/17/1983)

Dickey, Joseph W.,
3/1/2026(8/15/1998)

Doyle, Larry M.,
2/26/2026(10/17/1994)

Doyle, William A.,
4/17/2026(11/26/1994)

Driver, Vertis A.,
4/16/2026(9/21/2004)

Ergle, Cecil Eugene,
3/2/2026(10/5/2013)

Erskine, Timothy A.,
3/4/2026(3/30/1985)

Faulkner, Lawrence C.,
2/9/2026(11/28/1991)

Fejeran, Francisco S.,
2/22/2026(8/11/2001)

Fields, Theodore,
2/13/2026(4/14/1990)

Gary, Embry D.,
2/9/2026(8/2/1988)

Golliher, Jerry L.,
1/30/2026(1/4/2003)

Gourley, Harold G.,
3/2/2026(6/9/2006)

Gravitt, Charles E.,
4/15/2026(11/1/1997)

Griggs, James R.,
4/11/2026(10/17/1994)

Grizzard, Bobby F.,
3/23/2026(6/2/1999)

Hall, Dewie Sue,
4/14/2026(8/9/1992)

Hammock, Stanley J.,
1/25/2026(10/17/1994)

Harris, Homer C.,
3/16/2026(4/7/1990)

Harris, Richard Thomas,
3/14/2026(1/2/2010)

Hart, Norma J.,
3/11/2026(10/1/1996)

Hatcher, Jerry W.,
3/6/2026(10/25/2003)

Hatchett, Zenade F.,
3/3/2026(7/30/1988)

Heikes, Marlyn J.,
2/13/2026(4/2/2001)

Higgins, Angela M.,
2/16/2026(1/6/2018)

Hill, Alfred L.,
4/10/2026(10/1/1985)

Hire, Danny F.,
3/22/2026(1/3/2009)

Hood, James D.,
1/20/2026(1/1/1993)

Howe, Lyman H., III,
3/3/2026(12/30/1997)

Jackson, Joe L.,
2/20/2026(1/6/2007)

Jeffers, Mary Ruth,
2/17/2026(9/29/1984)

Jenkins, Willie,
11/23/2025(2/17/1990)

Jones, Kevin A.,
3/1/2026(7/25/2002)

Key, Stephen L.,
2/21/2026(4/26/1997)

Keylon, Robert L.,
3/26/2026(10/17/1994)

Kilburn, James H.,
3/15/2026(4/4/1981)

Kitchel, Dwain L.,
2/19/2026(8/17/1988)

Knight, John H.,
12/11/2025(5/3/1992)

Krause, Larry L.,
1/23/2026(10/2/1992)

Lackey, Larry S.,
2/7/2026(1/6/2007)

Lake, Bennett C.,
4/7/2026(12/24/1994)

Lang, Ellis O.,
2/10/2026(9/24/2012)

Latchem, Donald B.,
1/23/2026(10/20/2007)

Layne, Joe A.,
3/2/2026(10/17/1994)

Leach, Carlos L.,
1/24/2026(9/20/1997)

Liakonis, Nicholas A.,
2/4/2026(4/13/1991)

Long, Kenneth R.,
3/5/2026(10/11/2008)

Lovelace, Nela L.,
4/16/2026(8/6/1988)

Lovern, Charles Q.,
1/25/2026(4/1/1996)

Lubinski, Gary B.,
3/11/2026(11/21/1991)

Lucas, Tommy P.,
1/23/2026(5/4/2010)

Lusk, William M., Sr.,
3/19/2026(10/1/1988)

Mann, Linda F.,
3/28/2026(9/22/2012)

Mann, Merwyn D.,
3/31/2026(11/1/2003)

Maples, Brenda C.,
6/23/2025(8/10/2002)

Mason, William L., Jr.,
3/21/2026(3/4/2005)

Mayes, Janice C.,
3/21/2026(10/1/1988)

McBrayer, Keith W., Jr.,
2/23/2026(9/7/2006)

McGuffey, Gary L.,
2/24/2026(7/7/2000)

McKinney, Bryant D., Jr.,
3/23/2026(7/16/1991)

McLean, H. Kenneth,
1/31/2026(6/2/1990)

Meadors, Jean E.,
2/27/2026(1/31/1998)

Mintz, Kenneth N.,
3/3/2026(4/24/2010)

Mitchell, J. Bruce,
3/1/2026(10/2/2007)

Mitchell, Teddy F.,
4/14/2026(4/2/1999)

Mounce, Sammy C.,
4/1/2026(5/29/2004)

Nance, James E.,
3/4/2026(9/4/2006)

Nelson, Beverly P.,
2/20/2026(1/4/2008)

Norton, Deborah S.,
3/7/2026(2/21/2004)

Oblock, Vencil S.,
11/20/2025(10/4/1988)

O'Kelley, Ronnie L.,
3/24/2026(6/2/2004)

Patrick, Frances G.,
2/10/2026(12/4/1992)

Pennington, David,
4/10/2026(9/8/1990)

Peters, Herbert H.,
2/19/2026(6/2/1973)

Phillips, James G.,
2/10/2026(3/1/2002)

Phillips, John F.,
2/5/2026(12/5/2009)

Pierce, E. Ann,
2/13/2026(8/7/1993)

Pirtle, Darce W.,
4/12/2026(1/1/1993)

Plemens, Linda J.,
3/25/2026(10/17/1994)

Pogue, Jacqueline C.,
1/6/2026(8/22/1989)

Pollard, Alice E.,
2/10/2026(1/3/2022)

Predmore, Eric H.,
3/20/2026(10/1/2016)

Pruitt, Adie S., Jr.,
3/21/2026(8/5/2006)

Quinn, William T.,
2/1/2026(10/1/1986)

Reid, F. Donald,
2/4/2026(4/21/1990)

Renfrow, Jasper B.,
4/2/2026(10/17/1994)

Rice, James H.,
2/21/2026(1/23/1988)

Richmond, Thomas R.,
1/8/2026(10/1/1988)

Roach, Thomas W.,
4/20/2026(1/26/1985)

Roberson, Glen V., Sr.,
3/17/2026(5/14/1991)

Roberts, Jackie,
2/21/2026(10/13/1999)

Roberts, Rachel P.,
3/20/2026(5/10/1992)

Robinson, Myra T.,
2/8/2026(1/5/2000)

Roland, Mary D.,
2/26/2026(4/22/2002)

Rothwell, Leland, Jr.,
3/4/2026(1/3/2022)

Rowland, Edwin B.,
3/11/2026(6/2/2004)

Sauls, Timothy R.,
3/24/2026(1/14/2013)

Shanks, Ben W.,
3/29/2026(10/4/2003)

Shipley, Judith A.,
3/31/2026(5/29/2004)

Simpson, Cynthia S.,
5/10/2025(9/27/1997)

Stewart, James M.,
3/18/2026(9/30/1989)

Stewart, Mary E.,
1/28/2026(5/29/2004)

Sullivan, John L.,
2/7/2026(3/8/1992)

Swaggerty, Donald R.,
3/3/2026(8/2/1988)

Sweet, C. Alvin,
1/27/2026(11/16/1991)

Taylor, Michael K.,
1/23/2026(9/12/2011)

Thomas, Sallie P.,
2/8/2026(8/23/1997)

Thompson, Charlie C., Jr.,
3/18/2026(8/2/1988)

Thompson, Gary L.,
2/17/2026(1/7/2007)

Thompson, James L.,
1/21/2026(10/18/2003)

Thornton, Kenneth W.,
1/31/2026(3/27/1999)

Throgmorton, John D.,
1/24/2026(11/29/2002)

Thum, Charles L.,
4/18/2026(12/5/2009)

Tolley, Randy D.,
4/11/2026(1/31/2014)

Tucker, Adeina M.,
2/6/2026(1/5/1985)

Turner, Carl E.,
1/31/2026(4/21/2001)

Valiga, Laurie Davis,
3/4/2026(10/1/2014)

Varnell, Boyce,
3/13/2026(1/11/1988)

Wade, Kenneth W.,
3/17/2026(10/1/1988)

Walker, Ernest L., III,
3/3/2026(11/5/1992)

Walters, B Eugene,
4/14/2026(1/4/1998)

Wantiez, William L., Jr.,
4/17/2026(8/2/1988)

Webb, Kenneth H.,
10/8/2025(10/17/1994)

Weems, Annie M.,
4/8/2026(8/3/2002)

Wilkins, M. Geraldine,
2/16/2026(10/4/1980)

Williams, Daniel G.,
3/22/2026(9/27/1997)

Wojnovich, Carlie F.,
2/15/2026(1/3/2009)

Womac, Jimmie R.,
2/26/2026(11/13/1990)

Woody, Bobby E., Sr.,
2/19/2026(4/1/1996)

Woody, Franklin G.,
1/17/2026(7/3/1999)

Workman, F. Lee, Jr.,
2/24/2026(1/5/2008)

Wormsley, Jerry A.,
3/9/2026(10/17/1994)

Wright, Herman L.,
12/5/2025(11/9/1988)

Ziegler, Thomas F.,
2/1/2026(8/6/1988)

Zimmerman, William P.,
2/6/2026(12/3/2002)

Upcoming June 2026 Chapter Meetings

BROWNS FERRY
June 9, 2026, Noon
Catfish Cabin II, 908 U.S. 72 E., Athens, Ala.
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

David C. Matherly Jr., President
256-777-2175/dcmatherly@gmail.com

CHATTANOOGA
June 9, 2026, 10:30 a.m.
The Colonnade (Catoosa County Civic Center)
264 Catoosa Circle, Ringgold, Ga.
- Chapter Picnic
- Program: TVA Update and TVA Credit Union presentation on fraud

Denny Forster, President
423-802-6570/dmforster1@gmail.com

CLEVELAND
June 12, 2026, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Mike Long Pavilion, Hopewell Church of God,
5765 Eureka Road NW
- Annual Summer Picnic
- Music: Spanky's Brass & the Garner Boys

John Austin, President
423-472-2720/austintnutfan@charter.net

GALLATIN
Please contact Blue if you are interested in attending future chapter meetings or volunteering for 4-H projects.
James R. "Blue" Monday, President
615-481-8469/oemorgan@comcast.net

HUNTSVILLE
June 11, 2026, 10 a.m.
TVA Shields Office Building,
370 Shields Road
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

Daniel A. Simmons, President
256-509-9781/dasimmon@bellsouth.net

JACKSON
June 10, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
Southwest Electric Membership Corp.,
1590 Highway 70E
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

Alan Campbell, President
731-988-8814/abcjax@eplus.net

JOHNSONVILLE/CUMBERLAND
June 11, 2026, 10 a.m.
Country & Western Steakhouse,
314 Highway 641 N, Camden, Tenn.
- 10 a.m. Socializing
- 11:00 Meeting
- Program: Information from the TVARA Board Meeting, pension updates, TVA updates on generation growth, and news affecting TVA
- Guest Speaker(s): TBD
- Door prizes and cash-prize drawing

Remember to bring nonperishable food for the local food bank.
Mickey Blackburn, President
931-209-1352/mwblackb56@gmail.com

KNOXVILLE
June 25, 2026, 11 a.m.
Lakeshore Park, TVA Pavilion
- Picnic/Barbeque Lunch
- Guest Speaker: Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs
- Check presentation to Operation Hero's Hill Tiny Homes project

Leslie Bazzoon, President
865-406-3605/Lesliebazzoon@yahoo.com

MEMPHIS
June 16, 2026, 11 a.m.
One & Only (BBQ), 6575 Airways Blvd.,
Southaven, Miss.
- Chapter Meeting
- Veterans Group Donation presentation

Jeffrey M.H. Allen, President
901-484-4282/jeffreymhallen1@gmail.com

MISSISSIPPI
June 9, 2026, 10 a.m.
TVA Customer Service Center,
3197 Brooks Road, Belden, Miss.
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

Judy J. Bright, President
662-791-9779/judy.bright2@icloud.com

MUSCLE SHOALS
June 16, 2026, 10 a.m.
Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum,
702 Veterans Drive, Florence, Ala.
- 24th Annual Picnic and Health Fair

Bob F. Atwell, President
256-710-5826/rfatwell@hotmail.com

Getting in touch with TVARA

Here is contact information for the TVA Retirees Association:

TVARA 865-632-3318

Vickie Ellis, TVARA President
vlellis@aol.com/865-805-1512

Jo Anne Lavender,
TVARA Immediate Past President
jlavender@tds.net/865-300-8272

Les Bays, TVARA Vice President
Lpbays1@yahoo.com/423-782-8458

Kathryn Davis, TVARA Secretary
krdavis3@yahoo.com/615-361-9954

Lisa Overly, TVARA Treasurer
ldoverly@hotmail.com/865-567-7911

Suzan Bowman,
TVARA Communications Specialist
sebowman@tva.gov/865-632-6098

Richard T. Wilson Jr.,
TVARA Membership Program Manager
rtwilson@tva.gov/865-632-8542

Penny Walker, TVARA Volunteer Coordinator
pennywalker06@comcast.net/423-413-7137

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

NASHVILLE
June 11, 10:30 a.m.
Victory Baptist Church,
1777 Tate Lane, Mt. Juliet, Tenn.
- Program: Potential Speaker on Electric Vehicles

Leanne Whitehead, President
931-446-0664/klwhite220@gmail.com

NORTHEAST ALABAMA
June 9, 2026, 11 a.m.
Western Sizzlin, 1130 Highway 28,
Jasper, Tenn.
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

Larry A. Hancock, President
256-599-1383/lah35772@gmail.com

PADUCAH AREA
June 16, 2026, 10 a.m.
Pizza Inn, 1001 Joe Clifton Drive
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

Phyllis J. Robertson, President
270-816-1166/pjrobertson1953@gmail.com

PARADISE
June 8, 2026, 10:30 a.m.
Catfish Dock, 2003 W. Everly Brothers Blvd.,
Powderly, Ky.
- Program/Guest Speaker(s): TBD

Vernon R. Perry, President
270-543-4707/vrperry76@gmail.com

UPPER EAST TENNESSEE
July 23, 2026, 11:30 a.m.
Boone Dam Pavilion, 301 Boone Dam Road,
Kingsport, Tenn.
- 11:30 a.m. – Conversation
- Noon – Annual Picnic, everything provided: BBQ, drinks, sides, and desserts
- 12:30 p.m. – Meeting
- Guest Speaker: Mark Meigs, TVA Retirement System Executive Secretary, with update
- Door prizes!

RSVP to Bob Davis 423-367-9063 or Lisa/Phil Holt at 423-360-8306 by July 19. We need your name, phone number, and number attending to be sure to have enough food available.
Les P. Bays, President
423-782-8458/Lpbays1@yahoo.com

WATTS BAR AREA
July 14, 2026, 4 p.m.
Nick's Lakeside Grill,
2109 New Lake Road, Spring City, Tenn.
- Program: Traveling to the Philippines

J. Ed Couch, President
423-551-1226/jecttu@gmail.com

WESTERN AREA
June 17, 2026, 10:30 a.m.
Kenlake State Resort Park, Garden Room,
542 Kenlake Road, Hardin, Ky.
- Program: Feral Pigs in LBL – What To Know
- Door Prize: Free lunch in the Kenlake Dining Room

K. Renee Turnbow, President
270-205-5277/krturnbow@gmail.com

IRMAA: The Sneaky Surcharge…continued from page 7

on Medicare Parts B and D.

They apply, whether you are on a Supplement (Medigap) or an Advantage plan, as long as you are paying for Medicare B and/or D. The charts may help some people decide if they want to perform some Roth conversions this year, with all the ranges, phaseouts, and trigger points in mind. It is not possible at this time to know exactly what the 2026 thresholds will be that will trigger IRMAA on your 2028 taxes.

If you try to guess too closely and go over by just one dollar, the IRMAA surcharge will be triggered. RMDs, capital gains, and Roth conversions, as well as routine withdrawals from pre-tax accounts, can all trigger IRMAA penalties, starting with the year you turn 63, except the surcharges show up two years later.

People prior to the year they turn 63 if they are going on Medicare at 65 may decide to more aggressively perform Roth conversions, since they might only have the tax brackets to worry about. Please be careful to get good advice. There is much more to be discussed about IRMAA, perhaps in a later article. If you want more, tell your chapter presidents you'd like another article on IRMAA to learn more about it, and they can let me know.

I hope you have the best retirement possible!

News & Notes…continued from page 2

you need it and expect it.

Our efforts to continue operation at these sites could result in significant economic benefits, including job certainty for our employees and for our communities. Local businesses see those benefits when we bring even more people in to support maintenance outages. And the continued diversity of our fuel mix, with the retention of coal, only further protects our reliability.

As TVA continues to meet growing demand, what else do you want people to know about coal generation?

This announcement is just the first step. We still have work to do and some future decisions to be made. Continued operation will likely require adjustment to some of our permits to align with environmental regulations. And we'll need to invest in these plants to maintain the level of performance we've historically seen. Once we have that established, we'll need to look further ahead and evaluate costs and needs, such as transmission upgrades to allow for gas and coal generation at the same site for grid stability.

3 Cheers for Our Volunteers!…continued from page 5

Franklin, and Lauderdale. The Gerald G. Williams Cooperative Garden Project has been supported by the TVARA chapter for several years and provides assistance to low-income families, enabling them to purchase items to plant a small vegetable garden. The garden provides a family with supplemental food to be used during the summer and/or to can/preserve for the winter. This year Muscle Shoals was able to award the program $25,000. By the time the program rollout is completed, chapter members also will have provided almost 200 volunteer hours.

Finally, TVARA's **Western Area Chapte**r donated $4,000 to the Land Between the Lakes Association to be used in the educational program for local schools visiting the site. The funding will be matched by the U.S. Forest Service. Chapter members work in conjunction with LBLA staff and volunteers to design educational experiences for the students while on school trips. Retirees assist in the selection of schools, provide program leadership during visits, help with project evaluations, and ensure that maximum public value is received for funding.

TVARS stays stable…continued from page 1

the plan's actively managed international equity option, offering lower fees than the previous fund. BlackRock, a long-trusted partner for the 401(k) Plan's Target Retirement Portfolios, LifePath Paycheck, and index funds, became the manager of the plan's actively managed U.S. large-cap value option, also at lower fees than the prior fund.

The fiscal year 2025 TVARS annual report is available for viewing. The annual report is at tvars.com under the Governance tab.

SAVE THE DATE!

The annual TVA Retiree Appreciation Luncheon is coming up on Sept. 11 at the Chattanooga Convention Center.

Registration begins at 10 a.m., doors open at 10:30 a.m., and lunch is served at 11:30 a.m.

Please note that registration this year is ONLINE ONLY and will be open from June 1 to Aug. 21.

Secure your spot by visiting TVA.com/retireelunch. We look forward to celebrating with you!