



NOW HEAR THIS!
SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXII Special Edition



April 2012

Special 5 Star Chapter Invitation to Luncheon Presentation by
RADM Kevin Kovacich, USN

With great enthusiasm and excitement, we invite you to attend a highly unusual event—a local presentation by an active duty Admiral! Rear Admiral Kevin Kovacich, who is a Naval Flight Officer and son of our Spokane Chapter members Vince and Harriet Kovacich, will speak to us at a luncheon at noon on Friday, 18 May 2012 at Valley Hospital. Admiral Kovacich is currently the Associate Director, Assessment Division, OPNAV (N81D) in Washington, D.C. He recently completed a year as Deputy Director, Current Operations (J3) as part of United States Forces – Iraq in Baghdad. He will address the current status of the U.S. Navy, future needs, and planning to meet changing threat environments. Guests are welcome.

Admiral Kovacich's previous assignments include USS Midway (CV 41), Attack Squadron(VA) 128, Carrier Group One, and Fighter Squadron (VF) 213. He also served as Executive officer of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 122 and Commanding Officer of VF-211. His staff tours include Air Force Command and Staff College in Montgomery, Alabama, where he earned a Master of Political Science from Auburn University at Montgomery; Armed Forces Inaugural Committee; Joint Staff Operations Directorate, Counter Narcotics Division; Executive Assistant to the Director Assessment Division, and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Requirements; faculty member with the Industrial College of the Armed Forces; and Deputy Director of Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Alignment Branch Head Naval Warfare Integration Group (N00X).

For this luncheon only, we will have a 50/50 raffle. If you attend, you might win! There will be one drawing and half the proceeds will go to the winner. The other half will be applied to our new COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarship Program that supports four high schools (see back page). We will also do legislative letters. Please bring something for our troops serving in harm's way.

Spokane Chapter of MOAA
P.O. Box 466
Veradale WA 99037

Special Event
Luncheon
RADM Kevin Kovacich, USN

FRIDAY, 18 May 2012 at Valley Hospital
12606 E Mission, Spokane Valley
1200 Arrive, Program 1230-1330

Please mail your reservation early, we must receive it in the Chapter P.O. Box by Saturday, 12 May.
MENU: Delicious sandwiches, soup & salad, decadent dessert, chips, lemonade, coffee. \$10 per person.

Please reserve ____ places for the Friday, 18 May 2012 luncheon. My check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed (\$10 x ____). The check is payable to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" - please mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: _____ member/guest	Name: _____ member/guest
Name: _____ member/guest	Name: _____ member/guest
Name: _____ member/guest	Name: _____ member/guest

[] Please write in your phone number if you can provide a ride to the luncheon _____
 [] Future Program suggestions (food, location, speakers, etc) _____

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Directions to Friday, 18 May luncheon at 1200 with RADM Kovacich at Valley Hospital: I-90 to Pines Road (Exit 289). Go south on Pines (right if you're coming from the west). Immediate left turn on Mission (first light). Go one block and turn right on Houk Road. Turn left into the parking lot. Enter through the sliding glass doors on the west side near the middle of the parking lot. Questions? Call **Bob Imle at (509) 701-3342**.

We will have a 50/50 raffle and sign legislative letters. Please bring something for our troops serving in harm's way.
We are getting closer to bringing all our troops home, so now is the time to show our support.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.SPOKANEMOAA.ORG



Spokane Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. BOX 466
Veradale WA 99037

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COLONEL SPADY KOYAMA JROTC SCHOLARSHIP

Local Junior ROTC administrators have expressed great satisfaction over our new scholarship that the Spokane Chapter is offering to their cadets. It will be awarded to recipients at the annual award ceremony at each of the four high schools. Funds will be paid to the school where they are enrolled. To date, we've received enough cash or pledges to support a scholarship of \$300 for each school.

The Board of Directors wanted to name the scholarship in honor of a past member of our chapter who had served our country in time of war and had been a leader in our chapter. So they chose Colonel Spady Koyama, U.S. Army (Ret.), who was a Charter Member of the chapter. He was our first Secretary and he also served as chapter President from 1983-1985. Additionally, he was President of the Washington State Council of Chapters from 1985-1989. He passed away on 18 March 2006.

Spady was born in Ferry County, Washington in 1917 of Japanese parents. His father died when he was five years old, so his mother sent him to Japan to live with relatives for six years. He then returned and attended Lewis and Clark High School, graduating in 1937. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, his mother told him he should be fighting for his country. However, when he tried to enlist at the Spokane Army recruiting office he was initially rejected because he looked like the enemy. So he went home and returned the next day, when he was finally accepted. He offered the Army a unique capability in that he could speak and write fluent Japanese. In 1944, Spady was part of the Philippine invasion when his LST was hit by a kamikaze bomber. He was badly injured and left for dead until someone saw his arm move. In 1947 the Pentagon sent a letter asking him to return to active duty. Once again, his mother's influence played a part and she told him that General MacArthur still needed him. So he said "yes." He went on to interrogate Japanese prisoners of war at MacArthur's headquarters and eventually retired as a Colonel. Spady later met a number of people who had been prisoners of the United States. They expressed their appreciation for kind treatment by all Americans, especially Spady.

If you would like to donate to the COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarship Program, please write a check to Spokane Chapter MOAA and denote the scholarship in the Memo line. Mail it to Spokane Chapter MOAA, P.O. Box 466, Veradale WA 99037.

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