



What's Goin' On February 2025

Meetings and Programs

February 5 Lunch – Edina Country Club

Jack Atkins has invited **Andrew Atkins**, Structural Business Class Lead Engineer, HDR Inc., to speak to us. His topic will be **Case Studies of Catastrophic Collapse**.

Most of us take the safety and stability of our infrastructure for granted, despite occasional high-profile failures that briefly shock us. This presentation will delve into several case studies of different collapses and discuss—in layman's terms—what contributed to them: deterioration, construction defect, design flaw, or all of the above. It will also discuss how we all can be more diligent in safeguarding the safety of our communities' homes and buildings.

Andrew has worked on several new building designs such as the Optum Headquarters in Eden Prairie, and rehabilitation projects such as the Minnesota State Capitol Restoration. He has assessed hundreds of structures and investigated dozens of structural failures across the state and country. He is a licensed Professional (PE) & Structural Engineer (SE).

February 19 Lunch – Edina Country Club

Thanks to George Burr, our speaker will be **Pat Sukhum, CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters Twin Cities**. Pat is a Serial Entrepreneur (Cofounder Definity Health, Redbrick Health, etc) that is now on passion project leading BBBS TC.

March 5 Lunch – Edina Country Club

Invited by Bob Darwin, our speaker will be **Dr. Paul Robbins**, Ph.D, Co-Director of Institute on the Biology of Aging and Metabolism (iBAM) and Professor of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics, UMN. His topic will be **Science of Healthy Aging**

Aging itself is the greatest risk factor for most diseases, which suggests that the development of approaches to slow aging will lead to an extended period of health and lessen the incidence and severity of many diseases. Therefore, the Institute on the Biology of Aging and Metabolism (iBAM) at the University of Minnesota is focused on understanding the biology that drives aging and developing approaches to manipulate biology to extend human healthspan. In particular, the Robbins laboratory uses mouse models followed by human clinical trials to develop pharmaceutical approaches to lessen or eliminate age-related diseases and conditions. An overview of the biology of aging and the progress towards developing approaches targeting aging will be presented.

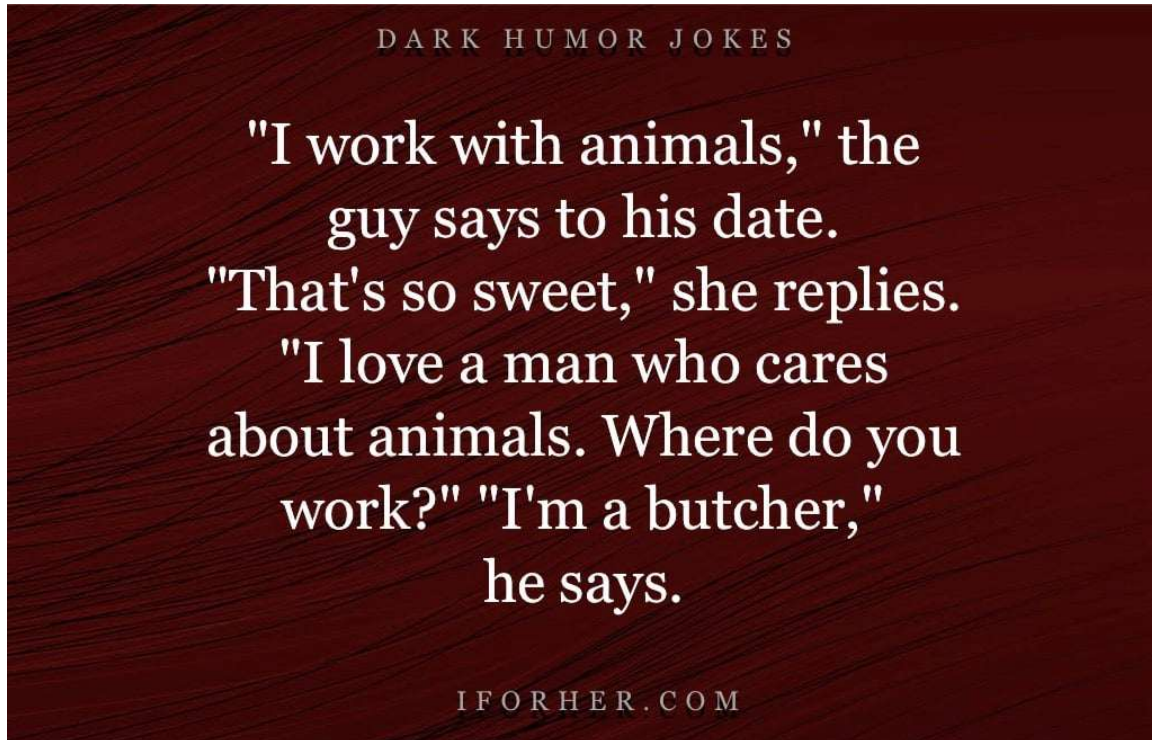
Program Help Available

If you need help lining up a program, contact Howard Goltz or Dan Atkins for leads and suggestions. Members are encouraged to arrange programs early, and provide information to the newsletter editor, Rich Makela, so we can publicize the program in the newsletter, helping assure good attendance at meetings. If you contact Howard or Dan, or any other member, for help, make sure it is clear who is to contact the speaker, and that there is only one primary contact person.

Social Events

We will be having our first 2025 social event on the 20th of February! This will be a tour of the National Weather Service Twin Cities Forecast Service Office in Chanhassen, followed by lunch at nearby Houlihan's Restaurant in Chanhassen. Richard Foley will be emailing members with more details. Members, spouses, and guests are invited.

On the Humorous Side



A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand.

No husband has ever been shot while doing the dishes.

It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.

Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.