

DPS ANNUAL BANQUET

Sunday May 4, 2025

Almanson Court

700 S. Almanson St
Alhambra, CA 91801

Time: 5:30pm Social Hour, 6:30pm Dinner, 8pm Speaker



Abby Wines presents:

“Death Valley—Challenges for America’s Lowest, Hottest and Driest National Park”

Abby has been a park ranger since 1995, spending the past 19 years living and working in Death Valley. She is currently the Park Spokesperson and you will often see her presenting public announcements about issues in the park. Abby is also a keen canyoneer, and recently put together a canyoneers information page on the Park website. She also climbs a peak here and there, and you may see her signature in summit registers around the park.

With climate change and weather extremes, the park’s infrastructure and roads are under increasing attack. Scotty’s Castle has been closed since 2015 due to severe damage from a flash flood. The historic rainfall in August 2023 from Hurricane Hilary, followed by a huge atmospheric river in early 2024 transformed the salt flats of Badwater Basin into an actual water-filled basin that was 6 miles long and 3 miles wide. It was quite a beautiful sight, and attracted many visitors to the park. Death Valley holds the record for the highest temperature ever recorded in the world— 134 deg in July 1936. Some may wonder how the park got its name—story has it that a group of European-Americans were trapped during winter looking for a shortcut to the goldfields of California and gave the valley its name, even though only one of the group died. Despite its name, a great diversity of life thrives in Death Valley, including the unique Devils Hole pupfish. Abby will share her insights into this unique park and how to best manage the challenges presented by climate change for America’s lowest, hottest and driest National Park.

Name(s): _____ Phone or email: _____

Prime Rib: _____ Baked Salmon: _____ or Pasta Primavera: _____

Number of reservations: _____ \$75 until April 18 _____ \$80 after April 18. Total enclosed \$ _____

Order tickets online [here](#). Use Zelle or PayPal to send payment to desertpeakstreasurer@gmail.com or mail a check payable to DPS and your dinner selection to: DPS Membership Chair, Ron Bartell, 1556 21st Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Tickets will be held at the door. For questions, send email to desertpeakssection@gmail.com

Photo credits:

Top photo: Manly “Puddle” in Badwater Basin, November, 2023 (by Abby Wines)

Bottom photo: View of Jubilee Mountain and Death Valley from Longridge Peak (by Daryn Dodge)

