

ARIZONA DRIVER

THE ENTHUSIAST'S GUIDE TO LIFE BEHIND THE WHEEL

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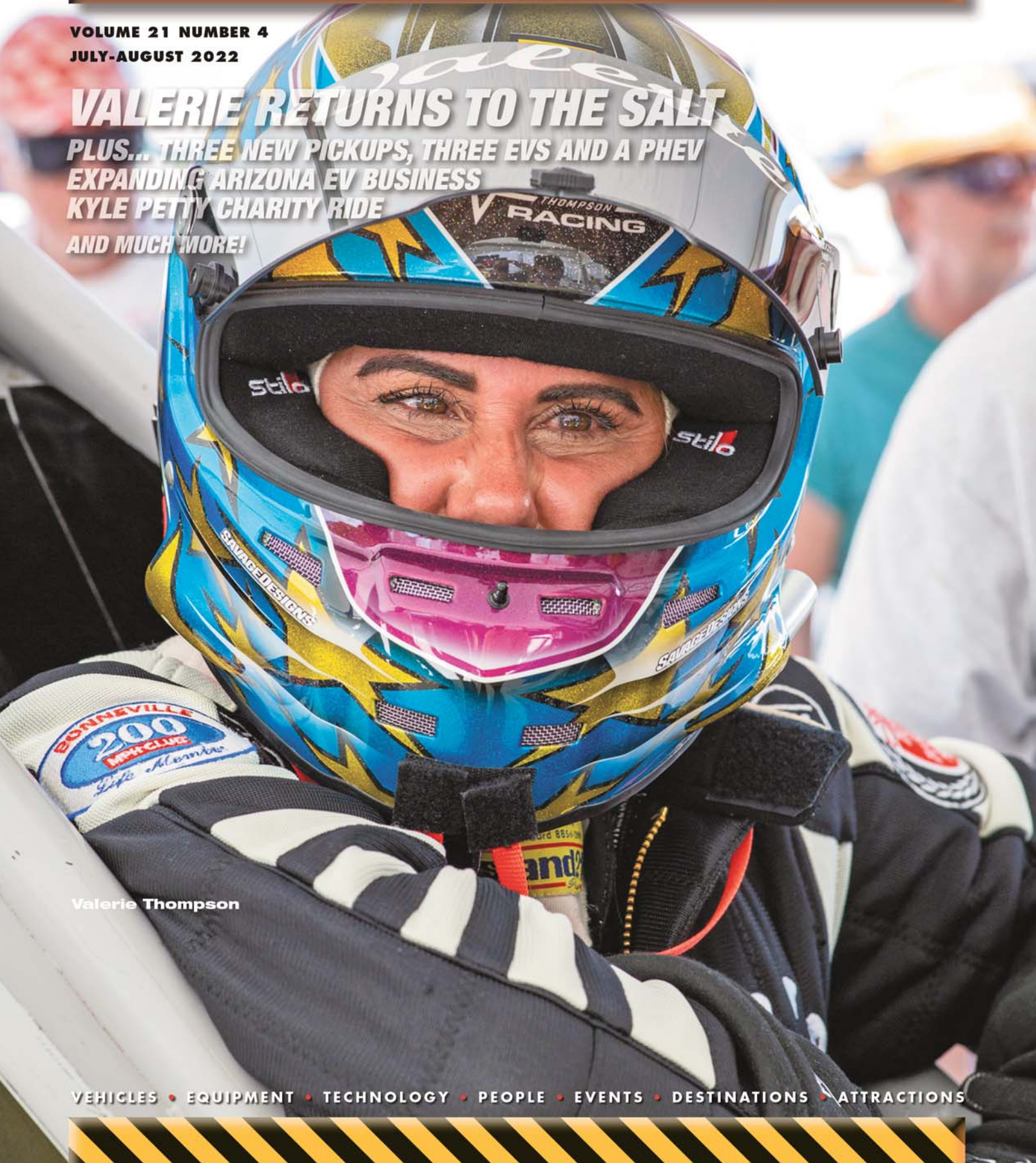
JULY-AUGUST 2022

VALERIE RETURNS TO THE SALT

PLUS... THREE NEW PICKUPS, THREE EVS AND A PHEV
EXPANDING ARIZONA EV BUSINESS

KYLE PETTY CHARITY RIDE

AND MUCH MORE!



Valerie Thompson

VEHICLES • EQUIPMENT • TECHNOLOGY • PEOPLE • EVENTS • DESTINATIONS • ATTRACTIONS



Valerie Thompson heads back to the Salt Flats

... this time on four wheels

Valerie Thompson, The World's Fastest Female Motorcycle Racer (and within a hair's breadth of fastest male *or* female) is also involved in four-wheeled streamliner racing, as driver of the Treit & Davenport Target 550, a 43-foot-long streamliner weighing 8,740 pounds, and powered by two supercharged alcohol-fueled Dodge HEMI engines generating over 2,500 horsepower each.

Valerie was headed from her home in Scottsdale to the Lake Gairdner salt lake in Australia just over two years ago, and the team and craft were already there, when travel and events were shut down by the onset of the coronavirus era. After keeping sharp with a successful new interest in pickleball in between, she and the team are now headed back to Utah with the Target 550 streamliner, first for testing and then for record runs.

The team share a few updates and thoughts:

VALERIE THOMPSON, DRIVER: It's time to write a new story this year in the Target 550 Streamliner! In only my third pass behind the wheel of the dual engine Treit & Davenport Target 550 Streamliner in 2019, we posted a top speed of 291 mph at the 2-1/2 mile point. I could have gone faster; however, the car porpoised and both engines were damaged. It's now fully repaired, and we are looking forward to the upcoming Utah Salt Flats Racing

Association (USFRA) Test & Tune session, July 7-10, at the Bonneville Salt Flats.

The car appears in good condition after its two-year Australian odyssey. Before we left for there, two new engines had received updated Stage V heads and Hogan intake manifolds, adding horsepower. Now we need run time to make adjustments, because Bonneville is almost a mile higher than Lake Gairdner, and air density is very different.

Our crew is anxious to regroup and get started. Following the Test & Tune session, it's off to SCTA /BNI Speed Week, August 6-12. We can't wait to be on salt again and to see everyone there.

MARLO TREIT, TARGET 550 STREAMLINER OWNER: This is the best news we have had in 26 months and I have to share it. Utah Salt Flats Racing Association (USFRA) are planning a test session July 7-10, 2022, and YES, we will be there. It goes without saying that the Bonneville Salt Flats is currently the only place on earth we can run.

Since it's close to three years since the car has sat on salt surface, there are some considerations. We have been examining the car one piece at a time, as the storage and voyage have been somewhat unkind to some of the parts. But, for the most part, it is just a good inspection and cleanup. No one would take a vehicle of this nature out with-

out going over all of the details that ensure a safe ride for the driver, Valerie Thompson.

This is a great opportunity for the crew to get some hands-on and the driver to get some seat time. With Speed Week only three weeks beyond the test session, it will be a challenge for the crew to get up to speed.

It is exciting to think about the road trip and being in Wendover again. Time spent in Wendover and at the Salt Flats is NOT deducted from your life span. Your life is in Neutral when you are in that town.

That is all from the trenches. -- Marlo

VALERIE: I appreciate everyone standing behind me during this year of development. And so, the journey of the 2022 race season begins.

The Target 550 team will be ready for testing in July at the Bonneville Salt Flats, USFRA Test & Tune. I can't wait to get back into the streamliner car. I will continue to stay patient and trust the journey. I am hungry and ready for success!

More racing to go ...

Thank you for all your support!

2019 RECAP ON YOUTUBE: You can catch a recap under the Bonneville Stories channel on YouTube, titled *Valerie Thompson Racing World of Speed 2019 Bonneville Stories*, from September 28, 2019, with thanks to Lou Fischer. ■

Valerie Thompson, Valerie Thompson Racing
10x Land Speed Record Holder
Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame Inductee
World's Fastest Female Motorcycle Racer 328.467 mph
www.valeriethompsonracing.com

Valerie Thompson



ABOVE: the 43-foot Target 550 streamliner sits in its moving transporter. Its 8,740 pounds must be carefully elevated and secured when being moved—the tires touch the ground only when the craft is on the starting line.

BELOW: Treit & Davenport Target 550 streamliner team photo by "LandSpeed" Louise Ann Noeth.

