

## Los Angeles Wheelmen VP Report - July 22, 2025

Hello All:

Last Sunday we were riding the "Whale of a Century" and I searched YouTube for whale songs for this spot. This is what I came up with:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5Trznre92c>

**Sunday:** As mentioned we were riding the "Whale of a Century" routes which include a full century, metric century and half century. The full century started from Camarillo at an earlier time. There were five riders at this start and **Phil Whitworth** took this picture:



That's **Phil, Edwin Dair, Rafi Karpinski, Dale Aaronson** and **Mario Solono**. Although I believe these riders had agreed to start a bit earlier than the scheduled time, I think they were the only ones who did that route. I didn't hear from anyone else and since the route is out and back, there is a good chance I would have seen anyone else on the route. The metric and half centuries started



from Ventura a little later than the full century. I started out on the metric also a bit earlier than the scheduled time, but I don't believe there were any other riders on these routes since they would have at least caught me at lunch.

On the route Dale took this photo of Phil doing the first climb of the day up the hill by Bates Road. This isn't all that much of a climb, but it convinced me to change from the metric century to the half century since the half century would skip a bigger hill in Santa Barbara.



I had just started eating at lunch when the full century riders came by before they did the loop up to the whale (the climb I skipped). Phil took this shot. That's me seated in the center.



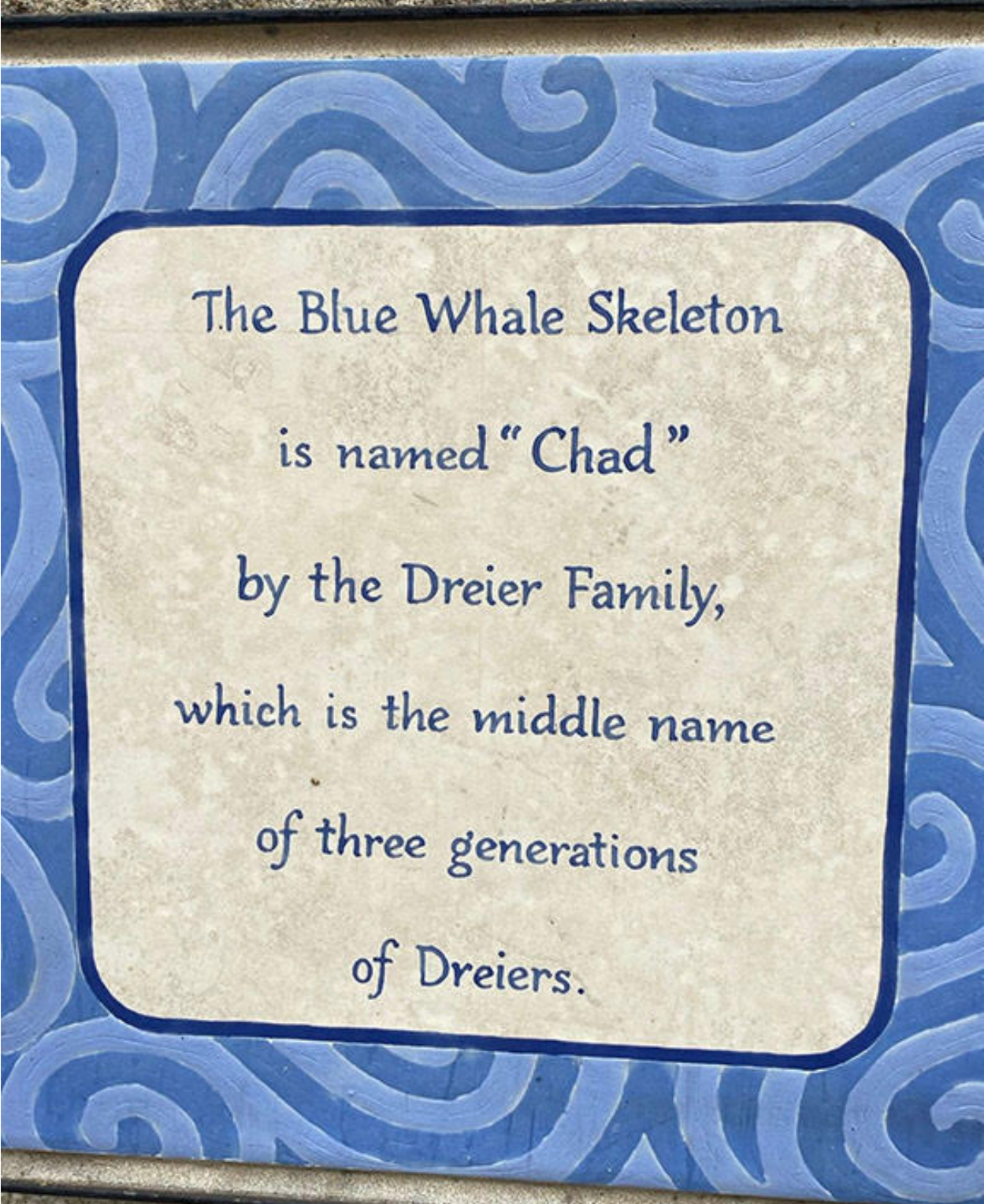
The group took a number of photos up at the whale. Here are a few (1st & 3rd from Phil and 2nd from Rafi):











The Blue Whale Skeleton  
is named "Chad"  
by the Dreier Family,  
which is the middle name  
of three generations  
of Dreiers.

I've been up to see the whale many times, but I didn't know it was named Chad. I had left lunch by the time the century group came back down. I thought they might catch me on the return, but they didn't even though I took another break in Carpinteria. All in all, another nice day and really our only chance to visit Santa Barbara.

**This Week:** This Sunday we will be riding the "Long Beach Rides." These routes all spend much of the day tooling around Long Beach. The long and medium do make brief loops inland, but they do this early in the ride when it should still be cool. Lunch is at a Pick-Up-Stix. Some of these on other routes have been closed lately, but I just checked and this one appears to still be open. It's been a while since I've been to one, so I'm looking forward to it. I hope to see you there.

**Minutes of the Meeting:** Attached are the minutes of the meeting held July 17th. Happy reading!

**Perks of Cycling:** "Chronic venous insufficiency" has been in the news lately since President Trump has been diagnosed with it. I'm no doctor, but from what I've read, those of us who have cycled most of our lives and continue to ride into our later years are unlikely to be afflicted with this problem. Just one of the many perks of cycling. The president may have access to the best medical care possible, but it couldn't protect him from something we are likely to avoid simply by engaging in our favorite activity.

**Parting Shot:** I took this on Sunday's ride where the northbound lane of the street into Summerland had been closed for construction.





I love to see signs that say "Except Cyclists." It's always nice when the powers that be think about us and leave a way for us to get through.

See You On The Road



Rod Doty, VP

2 Attachments

- Scanned by Gmail

Preview YouTube video Haunting song of humpback whales

