Twenty-two seasoned travelers All with one powerful dream Of communing with gray whales On the Baja scene.

Learning –Oh! Soooo much—
Bojums, avocets, pineapple tamale...
Welcome margaritas
Made us especially jolly!

Lovely meals, desert vistas, Moving to a Mariachi band Beach sunset, cave art— In an unfamiliar land.

Eva's laughter, happy singing Serving us water with delight, Filling our days encouraged, With taste treats—day and night!

Isabel—Fearless Leader— Confidently brought us to this day, When each of us shares memories Of joining in *ballena* play.

Out on remote lagoons
Cameras—at the ready!
Bundled up for adventure.
Boat Captain, sure and steady.

To stroke that dear gray's head That swims along boatside Joy leaps deep within— Two gentle spirits allied! Our time spent together Held in discovery's delight Renewed by a terrific trip We do celebrate tonight!

We're thankful for the bounty Found exploring The Baja this way Each and every one of us Joins a hearty HIP! HOORAY!!!

HIP! HIP! HOORAY!!!
HIP! HIP! HOORAY!!!
HIP! HIP! HOORAY!!!

This poem commemorates the unforgettable "Great Gray Whale Migration and Baja's Natural Wonders" Road Scholar trip #12315, March 20—27, 2012, composed by Bev Witwer and presented at our finale dinner. It is meant as a tribute to this kind of learning that touches the soul and ignites one's life with wonder and with energy for the next adventure.