



## HOSTING CORNER

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Open World hosted a delegation of Ukrainian Constitutional Court justices in Washington, DC, and Connecticut November 13–19. While in Washington, the group met with two co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Reps. **Marcy Kaptur** (OH) and **Jim Gerlach** (PA); had talks at the U.S. Supreme Court with Chief Justice **John G. Roberts, Jr.**, and retired Justice **Sandra Day O'Connor**; and exchanged views on appellate practice with U.S. Court of Appeals Judge **Douglas H. Ginsburg**. The Ukrainian justices were hosted in New Haven and Hartford, CT, by U.S. Court of Appeals Judge **John M. Walker, Jr.**, and state Superior Court Judge **Jonathan E. Silbert**, who arranged for their guests to meet with state Supreme Court justices and legislative leaders, and to observe court proceedings. The jury-trial system, which has not yet been introduced in Ukraine, was of special interest to the delegates. The Ukrainian flag flew above the State Capitol in the justices' honor during their visit to Hartford. Local Host Organization: Rotary Club of New Haven.



*Rep. Jim Gerlach (third from left) joins the Ukrainian justices for a discussion of U.S.-Ukrainian cooperation and the role of the judiciary. Executive Director John O'Keefe is on the far left.*



*U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., (center) and retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (far right) meet with Ukrainian Constitutional Court justices to discuss judicial independence and the workings of the Supreme Court. Photo credit: Steve Petteway, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States*



*Ukrainian justices show their country's colors at the historic Yale-Harvard football game in New Haven, CT. Also shown, from right: host judge Jonathan E. Silbert and Open World Program Manager Lewis Madanick.*

## IN THE FIELD

**ELKHART, IN** – The Open World program returned to its roots in December when Elkhart, IN, hosted a Russian delegation for an exchange on economic development. In June 1999, Elkhart had helped launch the Russian Leadership Program, the predecessor program to Open World. The December 2011 delegation, composed mostly of local legislators and government officials from Nizhny Novgorod Region, spent a week exploring with Elkhart leaders how U.S. communities promote business and solve economic problems. Highlights included meeting with Mayor **Dick Moore** to discuss governmental policies and practices that have enabled Elkhart to survive difficult economic times; visiting the chamber of commerce to compare business start-up and practices in Russia and the United States; and attending a swearing-in ceremony for Elkhart officials at the City Council chambers. The delegates also spent a day job shadowing their counterparts, which involved visits to the mayor's office, the city Board of Public Works, a community college, and medical facilities. The Elkhart Sister Cities Association (ESCA) conducted the exchange. ESCA board member **Doloris Cogan**, the 1999 delegation's host, discussed the value of Open World and Elkhart's history with the program in an op-ed published in the *Elkhart Truth* newspaper shortly before the December delegation's arrival.



*Vera LeCount (right), the local host coordinator for the December 2011 exchange conducted by the Elkhart Sister Cities Association, is joined by an Elkhart city employee during one of the Open World delegation's professional appointments.*