Happy Birthday, AAWGT! We are five years old this year, and we have much to celebrate. We've grown from 15 to 150 members, awarded $225,000 in grants to 25 organizations, and held 35 educational sessions. Our 150 members have collectively spent thousands of hours in service to our organization and the community.

Looking to the future, AAWGT is broadening our educational offerings to include special interest forums and a March session with a global focus. We are finding more ways to be involved with our grantees, with site visits, presentations and hands-on help to a grantee through our new Grantee of the Month program. This month, we feature the Eastport Girls’ Club - read about them and help if you can.

We welcome your involvement in the way that suits you best! And, we encourage you to join our leadership team, by joining a committee and taking a leading role on a committee. And, if you have a special skill or talent to share, please contact our Leadership Development Chair, Therese Gardner.

So we hope you join us in patting ourselves on the back for 5 years of success - and if you are not involved, but want to be involved with AAWGT, we encourage you to do it now!

Regards,
Lynne Davidson, President
Bronwyn Belling, Vice President

Go to www.givingtogether.org for a member donation form.
Important Upcoming Dates

October 13
AAWGT Fall Open House with 2009 Grantees

October 14
CFAAC Forum
“Five Myths about our Land of Opportunity”

November 10
General Meeting: Women & Leadership Session

December 8
End of Year Celebration:
Recognition & Election of 2011 Slate

Welcome New Members!

Kerry DeVivo
Joanne S. Moylan

Member Sponsorships Now Available!
Sponsored in Part by M&T Bank.
Click Here for more information.

Upcoming Meeting:

Don’t Miss our October Open House!

Members, guests and all interested women are invited to this membership open house, where attendees will have an opportunity to hear firsthand how AAWGT grants made a difference in the lives of women and families during the past year. RSVP to Carol Johnson at cjj1251@yahoo.com.

Wednesday, October 13, 6:00-8:00 pm
Historic Londontown & Gardens
839 Londontown Rd., Edgewater

Nominations:

Join our Leadership Team!

We are putting together our 2011 officers and committee leadership slate in preparation for its presentation in November. Most positions are two years and many future leaders are currently involved in one of our committees. We encourage any members who are interested in serving in a leadership position to contact Therese Gardner, Chair, Leadership Development and Nominations, at tgardner@cbmove.com or email giving@givingtogether.org. To read more about our leadership and committees, see About Us on www.givingtogether.org.

Hold These Dates!

October 14, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
CFAAC Forum: “Five Myths about Our Land of Opportunity”
Featuring Isabel V. Sawhill, Brookings Institution
Annapolis Maritime Museum, Annapolis
See www.cfaac.org for details

October 15, 7:45 am - 9:00 am
AACC Nonprofit Workshop on “Boards that Work in Challenging Times” (CMD 396-901) With a Pre-Workshop Breakfast sponsored by AAWGT.
Registration is $50.00 and open thru October 8. Find further information or assistance in registering at www.aacc.org or call 410-777-2325.
October 27, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
AAWGT Book Group
Connect with AAWGT members and guests for a lively discussion about our latest reading selection! Read more below or RSVP to Laurie Sharp at lsharp1000@msn.com.

November 10, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
General Meeting - Women & Leadership Session
Conte Lubrano Building, Annapolis
Plan to attend this special evening: "We Are All Leaders: Telling Our Stories" featuring three Anne Arundel County women who are prominent leaders: Tori Bayless, President of Anne Arundel Health System; Joan Calambokidis, President, International Masonry Institute; Sheila Finlayson, Annapolis Alderwoman and moderated by Molly Knipe, Executive Director, YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.

December 8 7:00 - 9:00 pm
End of Year Celebration, Recognition & Election of 2011 Slate
Home of AAWGT Member Gloria Martin-Pressman

Meeting Recap - AAWGT at 5 Years and Grants Criteria

On September 8, AAWGT members met to hear a presentation on AAWGT at Five Years: Looking Forward, heard a detailed report on our four years of grantmaking and approved two major revisions to the grants criteria to: 1) offer grants from a minimum of $5,000 to a maximum of $15,000 and 2) allow applications for a second year from successful programs.

Thanks to the Grants Committee for their work in preparing an interesting presentation and making good improvements to our grants process. And thanks to all AAWGT members who helped with refreshments and meeting logistics!

Grantee Connect Session Brings Together 11 Grantee Organizations

Grantee Connect, with the energetic leadership of facilitator Teri Saff, provided 16 staff and board members from 2006 - 2009 grant recipients with a full morning of networking, sharing tools and resources, and generating ideas and action steps on September 22.
Pictured are: Vicki Wallace, AAWGT Grantee Connect Subcommittee member, conducting a mind map on fundraising with attendees Barbara Huston from Partners in Care, Pat Eckel from the Anne Arundel County Literacy Council, Susan Thaxton from Girls on the Run Annapolis, Latonia Tabb from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County, Kelly Rodgers from Maryland Therapeutic Riding, and Debbie Wood from Chesapeake Children’s Museum.

Renewal Reminder: We Need You Back!

If you have not already done so, please renew your 2010 membership by November 1. Go to www.givingtogether.org for a renewal/donation form.

Member Sponsorships Now Available!

Funded in part by M&T Bank

With the help of a grant from M&T Bank and member donations, we have funds to sponsor women interested in becoming AAWGT members. We are proud to announce that as of September 15, we have awarded member sponsorships to three deserving AAWGT applicants! Please see our guidelines on www.givingtogether.org or email giving@givingtogether.org if you know someone who would be a good candidate for an AAWGT sponsorship. The only requirement is that applicants have an interest in being an active member and helping to improve our organization.

Grantee of the Month: Eastport Girls Club

Our first “Grantee of the Month” article features the Eastport Girls Club. EGC provides after school programs for girls ages 11 to 15 who reside in Annapolis public housing communities.
Using a mix of volunteers and professional staff, EGC provides individual tutoring and enrichment activities to the girls in the program.

If you would like to make a profound difference in a girl's life, consider volunteering to be a mentor. EGC is currently recruiting mentors who can commit for one year for 6-8 hours per month. Mentors will be professionally trained by EGC. Fingerprinting and background checks are required to qualify. If you would like more information or are interested in volunteering, please contact Christie D'Camera, at eastportgirlsclub@yahoo.com or by phone at 410-721-1049 (cell) and 410-280-2866 (home).

Thanks for Volunteering!

Thanks go to True Rowan and Brenda Anderson for hosting the Lighthouse lunch making in August and September. On October 15, Sydney Petty will host and on November 10, Gloria Pressman will host. Please email Karen Davis for information at kluciadavis@hotmail.com.

AAWGT Calendar - New Opportunities for Members

Discover all the ways you can give, learn and interact on the new AAWGT 2010-2011 Program Calendar. You won't want to miss:

- Educational Sessions where we hear from local experts about important issues.
- Opportunities to get to know our Grantees at the Grants Showcase & Fall Open House.
- Special Interest Forums (new!) that allow members to explore a shared interest or passion.
- Site Visits to see our grants “in action”.
- Special Women & Leadership Events to explore our role as leaders and philanthropists.
- Hands-on Volunteer Projects that improve our community.
- Book Groups for lively discussion and interaction.
- Connecting with each other through collective giving that creates a positive impact on the lives of women
and families in our community!

Log on to our website at www.givingtogether.org. You will find Upcoming Events on the home page. For the complete 2010-2011 Program Calendar, go to the Members-Only section.

What We're Reading in October

**When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960**

by Gail Collins

"In her pithy, wide-ranging and readable new book, Gail Collins whisks us through nearly five decades of women's history... Famous names and familiar stories appear, but what is most compelling are the vignettes of women who would have remained obscure without the work of Collins and her research team. Through their stories we experience the rat-a-tat-tat of daily indignities--big and small--that built to a crescendo we now call the women's movement." *(The Cleveland Plain Dealer)*

AAWGT members and guests plan to discuss *When Everything Changed* on Wednesday, October 27 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. If you would like to join the group for this book, contact Laurie Sharp at lsharp1000@msn.com.

Business and Committee Updates

**Education & Programs Committee**

Have you read a book or article that you would like to share and discuss with other members? Do you have a passion to learn more about specific issues that affect women and families? The Education & Programs Committee welcomes all members who would like to contribute their ideas and energy to develop discussion groups, educational sessions and other learning opportunities. Contact Laurie Sharp at lsharp1000@msn.com for more information.

**Governance**

There will be a class in parliamentary procedure by the Maryland Association of Parliamentarians on Saturday, October 23rd from 10:00 to 4:00 at Chartwell Country Club in Severna Park. The cost is only $25 and includes lunch. Contact Susan
Leadership Development & Nominating
This growing committee welcomes women interested in planning our leadership sessions and nurturing members to become future AAWGT leaders. If you are interested, please contact Thérèse Gardner, Chair, Leadership Development & Nominations Committee, at tgardner@cbmove.com.

Marketing & Communications
The committee is busy creating publications, publicity and seeking speaking opportunities, all in an effort to put AAWGT’s best face forward. If you have an interest - or skill with Microsoft Publisher - we would love your involvement. Email Julie Crudele at julie.crudele@comcast.net or Randi Hogan at randihogan07@gmail.com

Post-Grants Evaluation Committee
The PGEC met on September 15 to review the final reports and liaison evaluations of our seven 2009 Grantees. Our “Grantee of the Month” initiative for our 2010 Grantees starts with the Eastport Girls Club this month and will continue through May 2011. PGEC liaisons have been assigned to each of our eight 2010 grantees and grant materials have been distributed in order to start our evaluation work. The next PGEC meeting is scheduled for October 26 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.