



**JOHN APPLE SWIM FUND**  
Supporting Swimmers. Accelerating Goals.

# 2024 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 10 ■ [JOHNAPPLESWIMFUND.ORG](http://JOHNAPPLESWIMFUND.ORG)

Reflecting on the past year fills us with gratitude and pride. Your unwavering support allowed us to expand our mission into water safety and community outreach while maintaining our financial aid and scholarship programs. Because of your generosity, The John Apple Swim Fund is creating a broader impact in Lancaster County with the following programs:



**Rescue Ready:** A primary concern for our community over the past few years was the safe operation of summer pools, particularly for the Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation. In collaboration with other organizations, the innovative 'Rescue Ready' program was introduced. This initiative aimed to train students from the School District of Lancaster, equipping them with the necessary skills for lifeguard pre-tests. To further support this endeavor, the Swim Fund joined forces by covering the lifeguard certification costs for successful pre-test candidates. The inaugural year proved to be a success, as it resulted in the certification of 11 new lifeguards, contributing significantly to the safe and efficient opening of the pool.



**Summer Swim Lessons:** Our commitment to water safety extended to introducing basic swimming skills to children. Partnering with the Lancaster REC, we incorporated swim lessons into their summer camp series, impacting over 500 children. The overwhelmingly positive feedback indicates that swim lesson days were a favorite for summer campers.

**Financial Aid:** Since 2018, our financial aid program has assisted families struggling to cover USA swimming dues while dealing with challenging circumstances such as family deaths or job losses. Our efforts have supported at least two families per year, alleviating financial burdens during unpredictable circumstances.

**Scholarships:** The scholarship program, our inaugural initiative, awards two \$1,500 scholarships annually to high school seniors excelling in academics, leadership, community involvement, and a demonstrated commitment to swimming. Over the years, we've had the privilege of awarding 20 scholarships to high-achieving student-athletes across the county.

Your involvement and support have made these programs possible. As we step into 2024, we are steadfast in our commitment to sustaining all four initiatives. Our future goals include expanding summer camp swim lessons and increasing the scholarship awards, ensuring a more profound impact on our community.

Our annual fundraiser, Apple's Swim a Bridge, remains a cornerstone of our efforts. While we love having people swim with us in-person at Woodridge, remote participation in your own pool is equally encouraged. Let's work together to achieve our financial goal for 2024 and continue positively influencing the lives of young swimmers.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our cause.

With heartfelt gratitude,

*Mindy*  
Mindy Apple Ascosi

# Getting to know our 2023

## John Apple Memorial Scholarship Recipients



Connor Ludwig

**CONNOR LUDWIG** is currently in his freshman year at Shippensburg University, where he is majoring in Communication, Journalism and Media and is involved with the campus radio station where he hosts weekly sports talk shows. He is a member of the men's swim team. Connor graduated from Conestoga Valley High School and swam for Five Star Swim Club. He was a district qualifier for PIAA swimming.

### Best part about college swimming?

The best part of college swimming is the team and how we are one big family. I also like the intensity of college swimming.

### What are your favorite swimming events?

Favorite events are 50, 100, and 200 free...and of course the relays!

### What are some of your goals for 2024?

My goals for 2024 are to break the Top 10 all time list at Ship for the 50 free and continue to get all As in my classes.

### Any advice for high school students getting ready for college?

Work hard and stay ahead of everything such as assignments and studying. It will relieve stress, and lead to better grades and better results in sports or other activities.

### What do you miss most about home?

I miss my family the most. I love to hang out with them, so that's definitely what I miss most about home.



Melanie Hahn

**MELANIE HAHN** is currently in her freshman year at Ursinus College, where she is double majoring in biology and Spanish, and a member of the women's swim team. Melanie graduated from Linden Hall School for Girls, where she was an active member of swim team, track & field, Key Club, Club Med, Eco Club and a Student Ambassador. Melanie swam for Five Star Swim Club and was a district and state qualifier for PIAA swimming.

### Best part about college swimming?

My favorite part of college swimming is the people. My team is like my second family and they have made Ursinus feel like home.

### What are your favorite swimming events?

This year, my favorite events are the 200 IM, 400 IM and 200 free.

### What are some of your goals for 2024?

With our conference meet coming up at the end of February, I hope to improve in the events I swim and enjoy every moment with my teammates. I also hope to maintain my 4.0 GPA for the second semester.

### Any advice for high school students getting ready for college?

My advice would be to reach out to as many people as you can, and not be afraid to get involved from the start!

### What do you miss most about home?

I miss being able to snuggle with my dogs on the couch at home.

## 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

Available to Lancaster County swimmers in their senior year of high school who plan to pursue college swimming.

**John Apple Memorial Scholarship: \$1,500**

**DEADLINE: APRIL 22, 2024**



**Watch the highlight video  
on our Scholarship Winners**

[johnappleswimfund.org](http://johnappleswimfund.org)

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR CORPORATE SPONSORS FOR 2024!**

Email [Mindy@johnappleswimfund.org](mailto:Mindy@johnappleswimfund.org) for more information on how you can become a corporate partner for our mission.

Special Thanks to our  
**CORPORATE SPONSOR**



**DESIGN & INTEGRATION**  
Technology for the Built Environment

**WE'VE EXPANDED OUR MISSION  
to include WATER SAFETY**



Funding programs through the Lancaster REC and Lancaster County Department of Parks & Recreation.



## APPLE'S SWIM A BRIDGE

MIKE FISH, TOP FUNDRAISER

## 2023 PARTICIPANTS

### TOP 3 FUNDRAISERS

**Mike Fish \$1,125**  
**Lindsay Texter \$850**  
**Melanie Payton: \$354**

### TOP TEAM FUNDRAISERS

**Ascosi Family: \$1,520**  
 Emma, Leo & Mindy  
**Potter Family: \$1,100**  
 Cody & Hadley

Ginny Ackiewicz  
 Chris Apple  
 Leonard Ascosi  
 Lauren Beal  
 Hayden Eby  
 Kendall Eby  
 Hope Farley Edwards  
 Berkley Griska  
 Kaye Mede  
 Cece O'Day  
 Edward Payton  
 Anne Robinson

## 2023 Benefactors

Ginny Ackiewicz  
 Chris & Melissa Apple  
 Debra Apple  
 Lloyd & Jeanette Arnold  
 Andrew & Mindy Ascosi  
 Jennifer Ascosi  
 Leonard & Donna Ascosi  
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 John & Ninette Barnette  
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 Dick & Nancy Keltner  
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 Jayne Land  
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 Larry & Marcia Lefever  
 Leslie Lemonick  
 Josh Levine  
 Tom & Claudia Lints  
 Lititz Family Chiropractic  
 Thomas & Carol Ludwig  
 Emily Lunde-Habash  
 Carly Maietta  
 Holly Martin  
 Rebecca Masleh  
 Robert McDavid  
 Duane McHale  
 Alan & Kathryn Mede  
 Daniel & Ann Mekeel  
 Justin & Kaley Miller  
 Tess Miller  
 Kerri Moran  
 Britney Morgan  
 Bill Morris  
 Elizabeth Moyer  
 Susan Moyer  
 Kelly Myer  
 Glenn & Jane Myers  
 Deb Nissley  
 Donna Norris  
 Cece O'Day  
 Peter O'Dunne  
 James & Sally Oatman  
 Michael Orstein  
 Edward Payton  
 Melanie Payton  
 Vanessa Peters  
 Brian Pidgeon  
 Michael Porter  
 Cody & Michelle Potter  
 Ginny Potter  
 Kenly Potter  
 Robin Proctor  
 David Pusey

Norbert Randolph  
 Samantha Redcay  
 Hannah Reichert  
 Jeff & Mary Anne Rice  
 Darren Richards  
 Janice Rieker  
 Nathan & Anne Robinson  
 William Rogers  
 Lezlie Roosa  
 Debra Root  
 Dustin Sangrey  
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 Lee Williams  
 Barton Ziegler





## JOHN APPLE SWIM FUND

487 Letort Road  
Millersville, PA 17551

Supporting Swimmers. Accelerating Goals.



## JOHN APPLE SWIM FUND



The John Apple Swim Fund was founded in memory of swim coach John Apple. Visit our website for more information on the history of Coach Apple. Have a story about Apple that you'd like to share in the Remembering John section? Email us at [info@johnappleswimfund.org](mailto:info@johnappleswimfund.org).

## SAVE *the* DATE

### Apple's Swim a Bridge Challenge

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024

Woodridge Swim Club—Lititz, PA or at your own pool!

Join us for our annual fundraiser, Apple's Swim a Bridge Challenge. To raise money, swimmers will receive pledges and donations from family members, friends, and local businesses.

There will be team and virtual options as well. Visit our website for more information.

#### BRIDGE OPTIONS

**0.5 mi** Brooklyn Bridge

**1.0 mi** Wrightsville Bridge

**1.7 mi** Golden Gate Bridge

**3 mi** Pensacola Bay Bridge

**4.4 mi** Chesapeake Bay Bridge

**6.8 mi** 7 Mile Bridge

**MAKE A DONATION!** Use the envelope inside this newsletter to send a check or donate online. The John Apple Swim Fund is an all-volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible. 100% of every dollar goes directly to the expenses of meeting our mission.

#### CONTACT US

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[www.johnappleswimfund.org](http://www.johnappleswimfund.org)