

Collection #
P 0564
OM 0604

INDY PRIDE BAG LADIES MATERIALS, CA. 1977-2015

[Collection Information](#)

[Historical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Contents](#)

Processed by

Maire Gurevitz
February 2016

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 box color photographs, 1 bin of slides, 4 manuscript folders, 1 oversized manuscript folder, 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: ca. 1977-2015

PROVENANCE: Edmond Talucci, Indianapolis, IN

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: M 1157 Mark A. Lee LGBT Collection

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015.0317

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

In 1981, after finding out that their usual Halloween plans were cancelled, Coby Palmer, Ed Walsh and Gary Johnson decided to throw their own event, and thus the first Bag Ladies Bus Tour was born. The first invitation arrived to participants on a brown paper bag and invited partygoers to dress in drag and ride a chartered city bus for a Halloween crawl of Indianapolis's gay bars. They had about 70 attendees and chartered three buses. However, once the next year rolled around, and the AIDS crisis was becoming a prevalent concern, Palmer and his friends decided to transform the Bag Ladies Bus Tour into a fundraiser for Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City and local AIDS support organizations. The Bag Ladies now carried extra bags to collect monetary donations on the bar crawl, as well as using the tour to educate and spread the word about the disease. The donor of this collection, Edmond Talucci, was the first president of the Bag Ladies organization.

The Bag Ladies have been part of several local non-profit organizations over the years, such as Indiana Cares, AIDS Serve and Indiana Still Cares, but since 2005 the Bag Ladies have been associated with Indy Pride, Inc. To this day, the Bag Ladies have raised over \$1 million for AIDS and LGBT charities and non-profits and they have added more events in addition to the Bus Tour, including Cadillac Barbie's Disco Brunch, Shimmering Shamrocks, and Loud & Proud.

Sources:

"History of the Bag Ladies." <http://www.indypride.org/history-of-the-bag-ladies/>

Materials in the collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains photographs that document mostly the early years of the Bag Ladies Bus Tour, as well as other gatherings and events the Bag Ladies participated in out of their drag costumes. About half of the photographs have individuals in the photographs identified. In addition to the photographs, there are other Bag Ladies memorabilia, such as advertisement posters, invitations, and Bus Tour ID badges. Also relating to the early days of the AIDS crisis in Indiana are HIV test results cards and slides that show cells, effects of the disease and a chart that shows the clinical spectrum of the disease.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Slides showing HIV cells, Kaposi's sarcoma effects, graphs and charts, n.d.

Unidentified Events and Parties, from Ed Walsh, ca. 1977-2000 (1 of 2)

Unidentified Events and Parties, from Ed Walsh, ca. 1977-2000 (2 of 2)

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Andy Demuth, Chuck Winkle, Steve Willis, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Chuck Winkle, Bob Ott, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Coby Palmer, Brian Scherer, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Gary Broward, Johnny Jackson, Mike Bohn, Jeff Johnson, Kevin Klein, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Jay Williams, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, John Irish, Dean Gardner, John [Glosos], ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Johnny Jackson, Tony Newland, Dean Gardner, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Kevin Klein, Ken [Stinson], ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Tony Newland, Don Prince, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Wally Schultz, Steve Willis, Mike Bohn, Tom Sizemore, ca. 1980s

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Various Identified Individuals, ca. 1980s

CONTAINER

Slides, Bin 1 of 1

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 1

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 2

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 3

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 4

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 5

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 6

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 7

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 8

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 9

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 10

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 11

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 12

Color Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 13

Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Unidentified Individuals, ca. 1980s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 14
Makeup Preparations for Bag Ladies Events, ca. 1980s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 15
Snapshots, Unidentified Individuals, ca. 1980s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 16
Gatherings in Drag and Dressing Rooms, from Ed Walsh, ca. 1980s-1990s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 17
Bag Ladies Members (identified) Out of Costume, ca. 1980s-1990s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 18
Greater Indianapolis Gay Business Association Labor Day Picnic, Westlake Park, 1982-83	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 19
Bag Ladies Members Out of Costume, 1982-1986	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 20
Bag Ladies on the Bus, ca. 1982-2000 (1 of 2)	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 21
Bag Ladies on the Bus, ca. 1982-2000 (1 of 2)	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 22
Advertisement, Bag Ladies Benefit for AIDS, 1983	Folder 1 of 4
[Bag Ladies Holiday Gathering], 1983	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 23
Bag Ladies Bus Tour Party Stops, Edmond Talucci, ca. 1983-2000	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 24
Invitations to Bag Ladies Events, 1984	Folder 2 of 4
Edmond Talucci HIV Test Result Cards, 1985-88	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 25
Notes, AIDS Crisis Slide Presentation, 1995	Folder 3 of 4
Bag Ladies Light Up Necklace, ca. 2010s	Artifacts, 2015.0317
Bag Ladies Bus Tour Photo IDs, 2010-2014	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 26

Posters, Indy Pride Bag Ladies and Scarlett O'Hairy
USO'H Show, 2013-2014

OM 0604,

Folder 1 of 1

Tickets and Fliers, Indy Pride Bag Ladies and
Scarlett O'Hairy USO'H Show, 2013-2015

Folder 4 of 4