

Collection #  
SC 3596  
DVD 1917–1919

**MICHAEL WASKOM  
ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW, 16 DECEMBER 2017**

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July 2019

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION:** 1 manuscript folder, 3 DVDs

**COLLECTION  
DATES:** 2017

**PROVENANCE:** Indiana LGBT Oral History Project

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE  
FORMATS:**

**RELATED  
HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION  
NUMBER:** 2019.0221

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

In 2014 the Indiana Historical Society began the Indiana LGBT Collecting Initiative to collect, preserve, and make accessible materials that document the rich history, tradition, and culture of Indiana's LGBT communities. Part of the collecting initiative includes the Indianapolis/Central Indiana LGBT Oral History Project. During the time period of 2014–2017, interviews were conducted of individuals, couples and families from all walks of life in the Central Indiana area.

Michael Waskom (b. ca. 1964) was born in Phoenix, Arizona, and grew up around North Vernon, Indiana. Waskom was raised as a Jehovah's Witness, and his struggle to reconcile his sexuality with his religion prevented him from coming out until he was 28 years old. He believes now that coming out as a gay man saved him from a fundamentalist religion. Waskom was heavily involved in the Seymour chapter of PFLAG, serving on its Board of Directors for twenty years until the chapter disbanded in 2015. He currently resides in North Vernon, Indiana.

Sources:

Information found in the collection.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The interview was transcribed from one video recorded interview. This manuscript was transcribed from a digitally recorded interview with Michael Waskom was conducted on 16 December 2017, at the home of the interviewee in North Vernon, Indiana. The interview was conducted by Mark Lee who was contracted by IHS for the project from 2014 to 2017. DLC was contracted by the IHS to transcribe the interview in March 2018. The interview, which includes the video recording and the transcript, is housed at the William H. Smith Memorial Library, Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center. The video recorded interview is approximately one hour and fifteen minutes long and is recorded on 1 DVD.

The collection contains one manuscript folder including a copy of the interview transcription. The following is an index to the oral history transcript listing the topics discussed and the pages on which they can be found.

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Waskom Oral History Interview, user copy

Waskom Oral History Interview, master copy

Digital Transcription

### CONTAINER

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