Summary

Creator: Eddey, Roy

Title: Roy Eddey (Motive) papers, 1964-1979 (bulk 1971-1972)

Size: 1.09 linear feet (3 boxes)


Abstract: The Roy Eddey Motive papers mainly document the history of Motive as a magazine of gay liberation from 1964 to 1972, in particular the creation of one of the two final editions of the magazine in 1971, devoted to gay male issues.

Access: The sound recording in this collection is unavailable for use at this time pending preservation transfer.

Preferred citation: Roy Eddey (Motive) papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note
Processing consisted foldering or refoldering files which were collected in essentially chronological sequence.

Creator history
Motive was a student magazine published by the The United Methodist Church from 1941 to 1971. During the mid-late 1960s, the magazine became increasingly vocal in its support of such countercultural issues as the peace movement, civil rights, and especially gay rights, prompting the Church to halt its affiliation with and support of the magazine in mid-1971. Following the separation from the Church, the magazine’s editors attempted to continue Motive as a gay liberation magazine through the creation of an independent corporation, Motive Inc. However, the combination of lack of financial resources and disagreements among the editors led to the decision to end the magazine with the simultaneous publication of two final editions: one devoted to lesbian issues and the other to gay male issues. They were published in early 1972 as volume 32, nos. 1 and 2. Roy Eddey, who had been the last editor of the magazine while it was still a church publication, edited the men’s issue. Motive Inc. was disbanded in the mid-1970s, and the name "Motive" was sold back to The United Methodist Church in return for the Church paying off the corporation's remaining debts.
Scope and content note
The Roy Eddey Motive papers chronicle the life of Motive from 1964 to 1972 as a magazine featuring and eventually devoted to gay liberation. In particular, it documents the production of the final, gay men's issue in 1971. The papers contain editorial and contributor correspondence and business papers documenting the history of Motive Inc.

Earlier files (1964-1970) contain correspondence with the Motive editors of those years, B.J. Stiles and Ron Henderson, and include contributor letters, manuscripts and art work, as well as discussion of a proposed issue entirely devoted to homosexuality. The original art work is by Robert Charles Brown.

Files from 1971-1979 contain business and editorial and production files. Business files include the separation agreement from the Methodist Church, incorporation and copyright papers for Motive Inc., and editorial meeting minutes from 1971 documenting the decision to end the magazine. Later correspondence (post-1972) mainly concerns final disposition of funds among the magazine’s contributors, the dissolution of Motive Inc. and the sale of the name "Motive" back to the Methodist Church.

Editorial and production files document the creation of the final issues of Motive (mainly the gay men’s issue). They include contributor correspondence, manuscripts, gay newspaper and magazine clippings sent with the manuscripts, and letters to the editor in response to the magazine’s last issues.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged chronologically, with some divisions by subject within date ranges.

Key terms
Subjects
Gay liberation movement.

Names
Eddey, Roy
Motive (Nashville, Tenn. : 1941)
United Methodist Church (U.S.)--Periodicals.

Special formats
commercial correspondence
ink drawings
manuscripts for publication
personal correspondence

Occupations
editors

Places
New York (N.Y.)


**Container list**

1964-1970

b.1 f.1-3 Editorial correspondence

b.2 Art

1971-1979

b.1 f.4-6 Motive, Inc. business files

b.3 f.1-5 Editorial and production files

CR Group--Roy Eddey and Others, undated

One single audio reel that is unavailable pending preservation transfer.