Centennial Heritage Museum

The historic Kellogg House built in 1898, is the centerpiece of the museum and its programs.

Photo from their website centenniaalmuseum.org

The Kellogg House and the man who designed and built the home will be the focus of our June 9, 2005 general meeting at the Kidsum at 7:30 p.m. Our speaker will be Adam Reed England, Site Interpreter at Centennial Heritage Museum.

The 1898 Kellogg House, the 1899 Maag House, a nature center, a blacksmith shop, a small orange grove and a picnic area make up the museum complex on four acres south of Centennial Park on Harvard Street off Fairview, see map on page 2.

The Discovery Museum (now renamed the Centennial Heritage Museum is where the Orange County Historical Society had office and archive space for several years in temporary buildings no longer there.

We lost our office on 20th Street in Santa Ana when the building in which we were located was razed as part of Bowers Museum expansion. We relocated to the Discovery Museum property in 1990. It is interesting to note that those individuals who made that move feasible are still active in the society today, Bruce Sinclair and Richard Vining, the movers. Linda Herman, was the curator who packed, unpacked and organized office and archive. We moved to our present location in the Dr. Howe-Waffle House and Medical Museum in 1996.

The museum promotes local history through hands-on-educational programs for students and visitors of all ages. Children learn what life was like in the 1890s by playing with vintage toys, doing laundry, making butter and trying on vintage clothing.

Other tours focus on the blacksmith shop, life in the gold camps, eco-system study in the fresh water pond, plant study and compass and map reading. All these are made understandable to children with activities and crafts that engage their interest through hands-on.

Continued page 2