At Drayton Hall

‘Franklin, friends’ open tonight

A USC theater professor has adapted several of Benjamin Franklin’s writings into a lively revue which will be presented at 8:15 p.m., tonight through Friday in the Drayton Hall Theater.

In keeping with the spirit of the upcoming Bicentennial, “Franklin & Friends” takes events from our nation’s early history and forms them into a satirical, irreverent and entertaining revue.

Prof. James Patterson has formed the revue by adapting writings both by and about Franklin. The revue is comprised of sections from Franklin’s autobiography, his almanac, letters, and occasional pieces he wrote while serving in Paris during the Revolutionary War.

Jem Graves, a graduate student in theatre, will portray Franklin. Graves is a 1966 graduate of USC and former student body president. He has previously acted with the national touring company Alpha-Omega Players.

Three USC music faculty members, Fred Teuber, Richard Goodwin and Sam Douglas are providing music and English Department instructor Paula Goff has created the lyrics. Patterson is directing the show.

The set design is by Frank Mohler and lighting by Warren Houtz. Prof. Loyd Carroll has created the 18th century costumes and Jim Propes is choreographer.

Tickets for the Department of Theatre and Speech production are on sale at the Drayton Hall box office between noon and 5 p.m. and one hour before curtain time.

Tickets are $1 for students, $2 for USC faculty and staff and $3 for the public. Reservations can be made by calling 777-2551.