

Focus on Karen Lustgarten, Women in Film

Once again this March, Karen Lustgarten, eminently qualified for the task, will be covering the Academy Awards for Seasons, Los Angeles Times Supplement. In addition to working as a columnist for this publication, arranging for coverage and writing articles on major Hollywood/celebrity functions, Karen is editor of "Reel News" the professional bi-monthly publication of Women in Film (WIF), the non-profit organization established in 1972 to improve the employment, depiction and position of women in film and television. She is also the associate director of WIF and is responsible for creating and building special WIF programs.

A graduate of U.C. Berkeley and former student of UCLA Extension's Broadcast Journalism Program with an internship in TV news, Karen reveals her commitment and enthusiasm in her recent editorial to WIF members: "Coming on board this year with

the task of starting from scratch has been a wonderfully creative, frequently exhausting and always exhilarating challenge. By far, the best part about creating and building 'Reel News' and special WIF programs has been meeting and interviewing inspirational women.

"So many WIF members serve as 'reel' role models-pioneers who became successful in their fields despite adverse circumstances often demanding great personal sacrifice. But what has characterized them all is a commitment to professionalism persistence to grow and learn, dedication to the work and a sense of humor and integrity.

'Special programs and new committees were set up this year to provide an opportunity for you to meet colleagues in person, gain valuable information for career enhancement, and develop more friendships in the industry.'

One of the special pro-



grams Karen has already arranged, hosted at Fuji's Hollywood Communications Center, was a charged panel which included **Mark McIntire**, actor and President of Financial Core Foundation, and owner of Micro Maestro (computer software), **Charlton Heston**, actor, SAG president for six terms, and a co-founder of Financial Core Foundation, **Michael Margulies**, ASC, of Local 659 and participant in Financial Core, and **Frank Sontag**, President of Local 766 (the electricians' union).

Karen's lengthy and varied credits include a disco dance book that made the New York Times Best Seller List, a Northern California Emmy Award nomination, and hosting periodic shows at Century Cable.

Best wishes, Karen, for continued success.