

Features

Tuesday, November 12, 2002 | The Detroit News 3E



Photos by Carine Lutz

Above: Ruth Langs, from left, Julia Jickling, John Langs, Bruce Kinske and Diane Leoni, all of Ann Arbor, party at the Earle.



Left: Jill Corr and Willie Newman, both of Ann Arbor.

Below: Jacques Habra, from left, Howard Cooper and Willie Newman, all of Ann Arbor.



Money raising is an art in Ann Arbor

The Earle, that venerable Ann Arbor basement restaurant, was the site for this year's Ann Arbor Art Center's Celebrity Sommelier Dinner. The 250 contented diners, fed during two seatings, worked their way through a well-priced three-course meal — \$62.50 — and quaffed some swell wines they purchased from prominent locals acting as celebrity sommeliers. When the evening ended, the Ann Arbor Art Center made about \$15,000.

This year's top sommelier moneymaker was Rich Lupke of Republic Bank, whose largest tip topped out at \$658. "It had nothing to do with skill," he demurred, "maybe the trick is subtlety. I just made sure they had a good time."

— Michael H. Margolin