Lucky Ties
International Students Meet Earle Meyer Chiles ‘56

As told by Philipppos Tsangrides ‘12

In February, philanthropist Earle Meyer Chiles ‘56, President of the Earle Chiles and Affiliated Companies was guest of honor at a reception in President James J. Kelly’s office. Guests included a group of Menlo’s outstanding international students and the discussion turned to their future. “And what are your plans after you graduate?” Earle Chiles asked Swiss student Pascal Niggli. Pascal replied that he would like very much to get his M.B.A. from Stanford University, but that he was concerned about how his application would stand out in the large pool of applications received by the reputable institution. “Why don’t you come with me to a reception at Stanford tonight? There will be some people there whom you will want to meet,” offered Mr. Chiles. “There’s just one problem. You need to wear a tie to the event.” Pascal looked worried for a moment until President Kelly offered, “No problem, Pascal. Use my tie.” Within minutes, Pascal was on his way to Stanford. Oh yes, that impromptu decision to seize an opportunity may have been one of his best decisions, because Pascal has now decided to apply to Stanford and he is still in touch with Earle Chiles. Lucky ties, smiled Phillipos, as he recalled the story about his friend Pascal!