The Zietlow Picnic, originally instituted by Hazel Kohlhaas, Severa Schamens, and Clara Williams was set up to meet biannually on even years with host families responsible for meat, dinnerware, drinks, and invitations. Responsibility for hosting followed the birth order of the families of the original children of Charles and Mary Zietlow, thus starting with Carl’s family first and proceeding every two years to Clara, the youngest’s family. That rotation has proceeded though two full cycles, with Severa’s family (the Schamens) and Clara’s family (the Klinefelters) doing this year’s picnic. About 51 people attended.

There was general agreement that the future organization should now shift to the next generation. There was no volunteer to host the next picnic/ reunion. After some discussion, people felt that the picnic could be a simple pot luck affair with all participants bringing their own utensils, drinks, and a dish to pass, thus easing the burden of hosting. The group agreed to always have the picnic on the third Saturday of June biannually at the Norwalk Park Shelter on the even years. There will be no special invitations as people will know the time and the place. Gary Lindahl volunteered to set up a Zietlow website to use as a communication tool, thus allowing for the continuation of the get together and family awareness. Darrell Zietlow, who in the past has faithfully secured the rental of the shelter at the park agreed to continue to do so in the near future. Who would pay for the rental of the shelter was not discussed. Perhaps a collection the day of the picnic by those attending would be in order.

Submitted by Donna J. Klinefelter