

August 1983

Back to the books

From Vancouver, Wash.:

"Oh, AA is so good to me. It's my whole life."

Have you heard that one before? Very honorable. Now ask that same person if he or she belongs to a "Twelve and Twelve" or Big Book Study group, and you will hear something like this: "Well, I am on this committee, and I am helping organize the banquet, and then there is entertainment, and work for PI, and oh, by the way, I am working on the archives, too."

Isn't it strange that with so many distractions from building a good program, the greatest distractions come from the program itself?

A few months ago, I picked up our newsletter and read that a group in our area had voted to do away with a

study meeting. They felt it was more important to know what the new people were thinking and feeling than to study the books. The fact is that new people don't know what they are thinking and feeling — it has been a long time since they have done either. That's why we have the books, not just to drop a wise line now and then or to say, "Read page so-and-so." Let's all read the entire Big Book, and then we will all know what we are thinking and feeling and what AA is all about.

F.P.