

## Weller, Peter & Fred Stark

As youngsters, Peter Weller and his cousin Fred Stark logged countless miles on the now-defunct Chicago Aurora and Elgin Railway, traveling between Stark's home in Elmhurst and Weller's home in Chicago.

"We always were rail fans," said Weller, who began photographing the trains and collecting railroad memorabilia as a teenager in the 1950s. "To us, the CA&E was a very interesting property."

The cousins both left the Chicago area in the early 1960s, around the time the railway succumbed to financial difficulties and was dismantled. But Weller and Stark, who frequently returned to the Chicago suburbs to visit relatives in Naperville and elsewhere, continued to track the fate of the CA&E. Recently, the cousins published "The Living Legacy of the Chicago Aurora and Elgin" (Forum Press, \$54.95), an extensively researched, illustrated history of the railroad and its eventual transformation into the west suburban Illinois Prairie Path.

