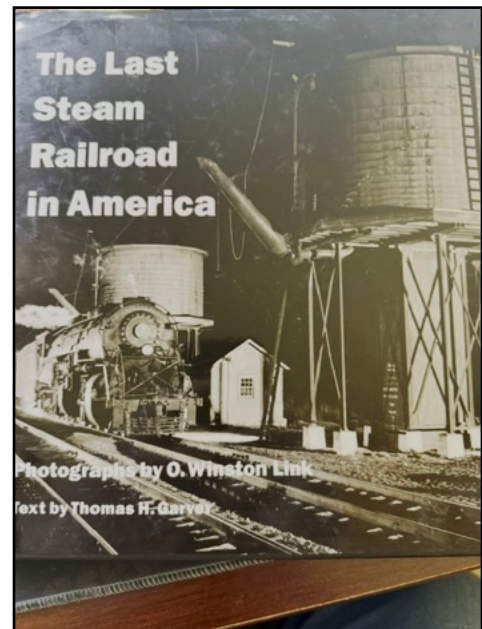


## 7. ERNIE LITTLE'S FAVORITE BOOKS



I have three favorite books on railroading. The first two are *Steam Steel & Stars* and *The Last Steam Railroad in America* that has photos by O. Winston Link. The first book was written by Tim Hensley and the second by Thomas H. Garver. Both of these books are a the travels of O. Winston Link going up and down the Norfolk and Western's divisions between 1955 and 1959 taking pictures of the trains, towns, the trains, the employees of the N&W, and people who lived

beside it. The black and white pictures, taken during the day, and those taken at night, using flash photography to highlight what Link wanted the viewer to know about the railroad. At the time the pictures were taken, the N&W was the last railroad to convert to an all diesel locomotive fleet. The N&W management supported Link in his endeavor.



My third book is *Dead Rail* written by a good friend and former Board member of the

Potomac Division Alex Belida. The book is a work of fiction that takes place at a National Model Railroad Expo being held in Washington, D. C. When I read the book, I found it to be an easy read, very addicting, and hard to put down. The main characters, Ethan Mercer and girlfriend Samantha Pierce, find themselves in a mystery surrounding disappearance of a Hudson brass locomotive being auctioned at the convention. I don't want to spoil your chance to read it, but I will say that it made me wonder if I was ever going to another train convention with what they went through. Suspense, intrigue, corruption, payoffs, spies, theft, the NMRA and murder, they are all there and keep you on the edge as you read the book. *Ernie Little MMR*

