RBBX FLATCARS, 2007-2017

Like the northeastern railroads of my younger days, the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus train is also a "fallen flag." One of my recent interests is recreating an N-scale version representing the train in its last 10 years. The project was started in February 2020 after seeing John Rezuke's HO scale replica of the train at the Amherst Train Show. My flatcar part of the roster was completed in February 2021. Pictures readily available on the internet were used as reference.

Both the 89' flats and the wagons are from MicroTrains. Some remain with factory paint and lettering; others had factory paint stripped and were repainted and decaled. All were weathered. The flatcars had brake rods added. Where visible, scratchbuilt tow bars were added to the wagons. 3D-printed and GHQ vehicles, along with some scratchbuilt items, completed the loads.

My next N-scale RBBX projects will be a bilevel car and a concession car.

Figure 1. MicroTrains 89' flatcars and circus wagons with a 3D-printed tractor (unknown vendor) and Shapeways minivan. Note there is little uniformity to the graphics on the wagons.

Figure 2. The first car carries a bus from Shapeways, a Bobcat from GHQ, and scratchbuilt loading ramps and horses. On the second car the Mack cannon truck (unknown vendor) is also a 3D print; it is not accurate for this era, but "It's my railroad!" The pickup on the third car is from Shapeways, and the food concession trailer is scratchbuilt.

Figure 3. The Ringling Brothers' circus train rolls through town on a Lakeshores Division T-TRAK module created by Jim Fairbanks. Jim gave a presentation on structure modeling with paper for the December 2020 NERx; samples of his N-scale paper models can be seen in this photo.