

Daniel Gonneau
Belle Boats
P.O. Box 821
Shelter Island Heights, NY 11965
631-268-8105 (tel)
info@belleboats.com
www.belleboats.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHELTER ISLAND HEIGHTS, New York (November 6, 2017) – Daniel Gonneau announced today that he has started Belle Boats to design and build custom wood daysailers and cruisers. The first offering is the 16ft gaff centerboarder BELLE, which was featured in the 2015 Calendar of Wooden Boats. A website, www.belleboats.com, and Facebook page, www.facebook.com/belleboats, will promote this effort.

“I originally designed BELLE for my own use,” said Dan, “and I was very gratified by the response to the boat. She was featured in the 2015 Calendar of Wooden Boats and last month was awarded a First Place at the Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival in St. Michaels Maryland. So I'm offering the boat to new customers for the first time. Each boat will be custom built here on Shelter Island, and I'm excited to see people's response to her traditional looks and contemporary epoxy-plywood construction. I'm also offering a sketch of a larger version, Belle 20, that incorporates a small cabin. I'm seeking a sponsor client for the new design and would be thrilled to build Hull One in the coming year.”

Dan worked as a boat carpenter for 10 years for Doug Hylan (D. N. Hylan & Associates), a custom boatbuilder in Brooklin, Maine. “My appreciation for traditional daysailers only grew while I was working for Doug”, Daniel said, “so when it came time to design and build something for myself I definitely was drawn to the comfort and beauty of the older daysailers. I named her Belle, French for “beautiful”, and hope she lives up to her name. Her new owner, down in the Chesapeake, has taken terrific care of her, and I hope to deliver another Belle (or two!) in 2018.”

About Belle

Belle is a 16ft gaff sloop daysailer. Her hull is of epoxy-plywood lapstrake construction.

Specifications:

LOA: 16'0"

Beam: 6'2"

Draft: 0'9"

Weight: approx 550lb hull weight

Ballast: optional 40-50lb inside ballast

Sail Area: 126 sq ft

Construction: Plywood epoxy lapstrake

Rig: Gaff sloop

Waters: Protected

CE Design Category: TBD

Outboard: 2hp gas or electric trolling motor

For more about Belle, see www.belleboats.com/home/belle/.

About Daniel Gonneau

After graduating from The Landing School (Arundel, Maine) with a certificate in boatbuilding, Dan worked for almost 10 years for boatbuilder D. N. Hylan & Assoc. in Brooklin Maine. There he worked on numerous wooden-boat projects, sail and power, involving both traditional plank-on-frame and epoxy-plywood construction. During that time, he designed and built the 16ft gaff daysailer BELLE, which was featured in the 2015 Calendar of Wooden Boats.

About Belle Boats

Started in 2017 in Shelter Island, New York, by Daniel Gonneau, Belle Boats specializes in the design and construction of daysailers and small cruising boats. Belle Boats offers the 16ft gaff daysailer BELLE and sketches of the upcoming 20'6" BELLE 20.

For more about Daniel Gonneau and Belle Boats, see www.belleboats.com/home/about/.

Links

www.belleboats.com (Belle Boats)

www.belleboats.com/home/belle/ (Belle photos and info)

www.belleboats.com/home/about/ (About Belle Boats)

www.belleboats.com/files/belle_study_plans.pdf (Belle Study Plans, PDF)

www.belleboats.com/files/belle_prices_November_2017.pdf (Belle Price List, PDF)

www.belleboats.com/files/belle_press_11-1-2017.pdf (Belle 11/1/17 Press Release, PDF)



For more photos, see www.belleboats.com/home/belle/