About The Artist:

Mechanics and motion have always fascinated me. During college I studied physics, engineering and chemistry to further my understanding of how things worked. I graduated with a degree in physics from Boston University in 1974. This intuitive understanding of motion and mechanics combined with the artistic influences of my wife, Marji, led me to the creation of kinetic sculptures. In 1975 we started "Wood That Works" and I became a full time sculptor. Since then I have designed and handcrafted over 75 different limited edition and one of a kind kinetic sculptures. I have exhibited in numerous juried, invitational and group events. My work is displayed in galleries and private collections around the world. I currently maintain a studio in rural eastern Connecticut.
Hello,

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Castaway is number _____ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of _______ in 1997. I build, test and pack each sculpture myself, doing 6-12 pieces of an edition per month. It takes several years for me to complete an edition and some are never finished as I move on to new designs. Designing and building kinetic sculptures like Castaway has been my full time occupation for more than 18 years. I hope Castaway brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Castaway has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for at least 2 complete windings (several hours) before I pack it. I make every effort in design, construction and packing to make sure the piece will perform problem free for years to come. I use only the finest materials. Of course, problems can still occur no matter how hard I try to prevent them. My answer to this is a lifetime warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. If the sculpture fails to work properly at some time in the future for some reason other than misuse or calamity, I will repair it free of charge. The sculpture needs to be returned to me post paid.

It leaves me happy and satisfied to find that my work has made it's way into new lives. I hope it brings you years of enjoyment.

David C. Roy
Directions:

To Wind
• Special Note: During shipping, the spring and winding spool may have shifted out of alignment. As you start to wind the sculpture the first time after moving or shipping, watch the spring and take-up spool carefully. Be sure the spring winds around the center of the take-up spool and not around the rim. Winding the sculpture will align the spring for additional windings.
• Turn the winding wheel clockwise 20 turns.

To Start
• If Castaway does not start immediately after winding, gently push the rear motion assembly wheel in a clockwise direction. Be careful while doing this not to start the front wave-form piece rocking.

Note
• Care should be taken while winding and starting Castaway not to set the wave-form piece tilting from side to side or spinning around. If it does begin rocking violently, simply stop the motion assembly and wave-form piece and restart by turning the rear wheel clockwise. The wave-form piece is weighted to remain horizontal. It is difficult to determine top and bottom visually. If you can’t tell what side is up just hold the rear piece still and let the wave-form piece assume it’s proper orientation.

About Castaway:

I’ve been designing and building sculptures with a “floating” motion for quite a few years now and it still intrigues me. The dark wave-like form moves through a variety of complex patterns as the motion assembly rotates. At times the wave form hovers at rest for a few moments, centered in it’s carrying wheels, then it breaks out and begins a new set of patterns.

My daughters Amy (14) and Karen (12) helped in the naming of this piece. At the first family viewing of my new work, I pumped them for name ideas. Karen said that it reminded her of waves in the ocean and then Amy said “Castaway” and we all knew it was right.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150
Size:42"h x45"w x 7"d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 2-2 1/2 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, brass, bearings, string
Castaway ©1994
Patent No. 4637152
Directions:

To Mount on Wall:
- DO NOT remove the tape holding the strings in place.
- Hold the mounting template in the desired location against a wall. The diagram shows the relationship of the template to the sculpture to guide you in positioning the sculpture on the wall. Please note the minimum clearance dimensions are shown at the edges of the template.
- Level the bottom edge of the template.
- Place a sharp instrument through the screw holes, marking their positions on the wall.
- Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- Screw the sculpture to the wall.
- Remove the cardboard spacer in the string loop and suspend the weight in its place.
- Remove the tape holding the strings in place.

Note:
Tape the strings in place before repacking or moving the sculpture. This will save a lot of aggravation when it is time to set the piece up again. See the diagram for the best tape locations.