IV. Caving Gear

- Misc: Caving Gear
  - Helmet/lights separate in back of vehicle as also used for above-ground rescue, too
  - Main pocket; in addition to cave pack:
    - Caveralls (custom Cordura with padded knees, seat and ankles) with pockets filled with
      - Gloves
      - Waterproof paper, pen, pencil
      - Small contacts saline (2)
      - Small Nalgene bottle with antacid tablets
      - Caving necklace (quick-release) with
        - Tip cleaner brush
        - Small folding knife
        - Whistle
        - Small compass
        - NiteIze Inova pocket light
    - Malden Powerstretch 100 union suit, underpants and CoolMax fishnet
    - Load-bearing belt
      - In top flap:
        - leather gloves for intense ropework;
        - 3 sets of 2 AA lithium cells sealed in plastic (backups for Nao headlight)
      - Petzl USB AC/car chargers, and USB cable
  - Thin side pocket:
    - Nylon dirty-cave-gear bag with mud brush
    - Plastic leaf bags
  - Thick side pocket #1; spare gear:
    - Fleece vest/in dry bag
    - 12"x24"x1/4" Ensolite closed cell foam pad (insulation for under lying patient; will fit in bottom of cave pack)
    - ThermaRest inflatable seat (insulation for under sitting or lying patient, or for me; will fit in bottom of cave pack)
    - Spare inner clothing: wicking polyester tops and bottoms, underpants, fishnet Tshirt, socks
    - Spare gloves (3-4 pair)
  - Thick side pocket #2:
    - Boots and socks (old light hiking boots)
    - Strapon knee pads

- Cave Pack Contents
  - 500 cc water bottle with duct tape on outside
  - Extra food: food bars/in bottle
  - Extra clothing: thin fleece sweater, balaclava, neoprene facemask/in dry bag
  - Spare batteries/in ziplock bag:
    - 3 spare Nao headlight batteries
    - 4 lithium AA cells, individually sealed in plastic
    - 6 lithium AAA cells, sealed in pairs in plastic
  - Hypothermia kit/in sealed plastic bag:
    - 3 leaf bags
  - Bare-minimum vertical kit
    - sewn double-length nylon webbing runner to use as diaper seat (can be attached to the load-bearing belt for additional security)
    - locking aluminum pear-shaped carabiner
    - basic 2-knot ascending rig
    - sewn seat Prusik
    - sewn foot Prusik
    - sling to attach the foot Prusik to the seat
  - Edelweiss Discover 8mm x 15m Super Dry Twin Rope, in rescue coil, new 2014
  - First aid kit: seal Everyday Emergency Kit in dry bags (except City Bag) and use as first aid kit.
  - Swiss Army Knife and mini Leatherman/on lanyard
  - 30' parachute cord (shroud line)
  - “Bubblegum” minimalist sound-powered field phones: 2.
  - Field phone wire repair kit, minimalist type
  - Roll of flagging tape
  - Two Sharpies, in heavy duty zipper plastic bag, for marking on flagging tape.

1 Suitable for non-lead-climbing belays per the company, can be used as a tagline for a litter (tying to both ends gives you nearly 7m of tagline on both ends), or in a dire emergency, as a static rope. Can in a pinch, belay the litter a bit using a Münter hitch on the locking carabiner attached to the load-bearing belt instead of a hip belay, which is hard with such thin rope. Certainly not a technique for belaying a lead-climber but quite useful for short belays in horizontal cave rescue. Comes in 30m length, I cut in half. In a rescue coil, it’s supple enough to make into a rug-shape to use as an insulating sit-pad.

2 Drilled through the roll, with cable keychain through hole. This prevents massive unrolling, and allows you to attach the roll to a carabiner.