Stellar stakes, Ripple promotes loyalty, and the SEC teams up with EOS Community what's to come for your holdings this week

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TODAY:

- Ripple holders are set for a big win, as announcement comes of another redistribution program
- SEC takes the holders side in lawsuit against Block One LLC. Confiscated funds are set to be distributed to the community.
- Stellar attempts to compete with DeFi craze with a new Staking Marathon on steroids.
- Bitcoin Watch: CoinDesk's Omkar Godbole sees "evidence of dip demand."
- What's Hot: Ether balances on exchanges fall to 7-month low, suggesting traders are using tokens in DeFi; SushiSwap co-founder tells CoinDesk China his partners were in it "to make fast money."

Ripple springing into action

The slow bleed of users in the community seems to have scared Ripple into action. The team over at Ripple, with the mighty Brad Garlinghouse at the helm, has decided to redistribute a chunk of XRP reserves (4.9 Billion) to all qualifying holders. As people have begun withdrawing XRP from exchangers to wallets and applying for the program already, we suggest you do the same by checking the developing story.

SEC Decision affects EOS holders

The EOS community is rejoicing after the SEC's decision to redistribute 100 Million EOS, previously the matter of a legal spat with Block One LLC. Allegations against the now-notorious Block One have resulted in official SEC action. The decision composition naves of alleged unfair market manipulation. All of the 100 Million

comes after news of alleged unfair market manipulation. All of the 100 million tokens will be redistributed through an official gateway hosted by the EOS Foundation.

As interest in the program is increasing by the minute, I suggest everybody to verify their eligibility and to check out our article about it.

Juicy Stakes in the form of Lumens

Staking Marathon becomes a sprint as users withdraw Lumens from exchangers and apply for their share of the 5+ Billion Lumens to be distributed among participants through the new staking algo. The surge in interested parties and the limited reserve dedicated to the program have created a FOMO in the crypto world. To stay up to date with the latest scoop please give a read to the Stellar Foundation's blog post.

MARKET MOVES

First Mover has written in recent weeks about the surprising possibility that cryptocurrency markets might have become the new home for capitalism, in an environment where central banks and governments are intervening deeply in markets while picking corporate winners via emergency aid.

If anything, the ridiculousness of the recent weeks' saga involving the deliciously named startup protocol SushiSwap shows that not only are market signals alive and well in digital assets, but competition is too.

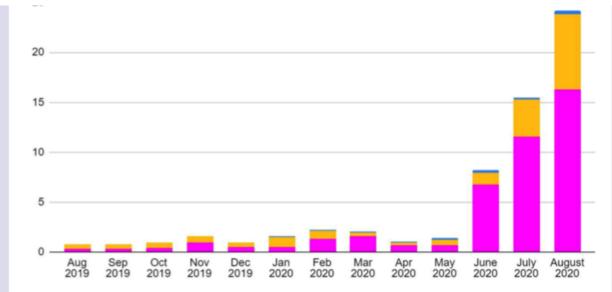
While from the outside these markets may seem like a den of rampant speculation. the innovative mania now taking place in the fast-growing arena of decentralized finance, known as DeFi, is providing a test of just how much the 11-year-old digital-asset markets can bear.

The proving ground for most DeFi projects is Ethereum, the second-biggest blockchain, preferred by many developers for its facilitation of "programmable" money" through "smart contracts" – bits of programming that stipulate conditions under which transactions occur, as well as any outputs.

The ultimate goal of these DeFi systems is to automate the functions of banks and other financial firms, making them less expensive, more efficient and maybe even fairer in their allocation of capital. Put another way, entrepreneurs are trying to make a buck by building things they hope people will use.

DeFi applications have jammed up the Ethereum blockchain with congestion, roughly quadrupling median transaction fees, known as "gas," since the start of the year. But as the research firm Dapp Radar points out in a new report, the network's usage has continued to increase.

Ethereum: Transaction Volume Bb USD Total transaction Volume DEX Transaction volume DeFi Transaction volume



Ethereum monthly transaction volumes, USD. (CoinMetrics)

Gambling applications appear to be getting crowded out, but activity has swelled on decentralized lending platforms like Aave and automated, network-based trading systems like Uniswap and Curve. Total transaction volumes reached nearly \$25 billion in August, from less than \$5 billion a month earlier in the year.

"High Ethereum gas prices have not affected the DeFi ecosystem yet," the publication wrote in its "Dapp Ecosystem Report" for August.

Nor have the elevated transaction fees sowed many doubts in the minds of investors. While prices for ether, the native token of the Ethereum blockchain, have retreated in recent weeks, they've still nearly tripled since the start of the year, to about \$367.

John Todaro, director of institutional research for the cryptocurrency-analysis firm TradeBlock, estimated this week in a report that daily fees collected on the Ethereum network have climbed to an average \$5 million a day — implying an annual run rate of about \$1.5 billion.

"Users have flocked to trading DeFi tokens as they have become the hottest new sector in the space," Todaro wrote.

Shiv Malik, co-founder of the Intergenerational Foundation think tank, wrote Thursday in an op-ed for CoinDesk that a lot of the DeFi activity might just be "token speculation" and "manufactured out of nothing," with "no actual coffee under all that froth."

But based on the recent data, the market appears to be working. And customers are apparently willing to pay.





Ether median transaction fees (in green, right-hand scale), with ether price (in red, left-hand scale), both in USD. (Coin Metrics)

BITCOIN WATCH



Bitcoin daily price chart. (TradingView)

Bitcoin remains trapped in a narrow range of \$10,000 to \$10,500 for the seventh straight day with both bulls and bears unwilling to lead the price action.

- Eventually, however, the range play is likely to end with a bullish breakout as the on-chain metrics continue to improve.
- The cryptocurrency's hash rate rose to record highs above 140 exahashes per second earlier this week.
- In addition, there is evidence of dip demand, particularly from small investors.
- The number of "wholecoiners" or addresses holding at least 1 BTC have risen to a new life time high of 823,000 this week, according to data source Glassnode.
- A move above \$10,500 would imply an end of the pullback from the August high of \$12,476 and signal a revival of the broader uptrend.
- "Moving forward, should price stabilize above \$10,500, which coincides with the 0.618 fib, a bullish continuation can be expected," according to analysts at Stack, a provider of cryptocurrency trackers and index funds.

Read More: Bitcoin Holds Firm Above \$10K But Strong Bounce Proves

Elusive

- Omkar Godbole

TOKEN WATCH

Ethereum:

Ether balances on exchanges have fallen to a seven-month low on centralized exchanges, potentially suggesting traders are using their tokens to make money from DeFi applications such as yield farming.

SushiSwap: Co-founder of "vampire" protocol tells CoinDesk China his partners on project were "thinking about how to make fast money."



How to Value Bitcoin: On-Chain Transactions

In this 30-minute webinar of our four-part How to Value Bitcoin series, we look at on-chain transactions, a concept that sounds familiar but involves novelties and complexities that are critical to understanding how bitcoin works.

On Sept. 15 at 10:30 a.m. ET, Glassnode CTO Rafael Schulze-Kraft and CoinDesk Research will walk through the structure of a Bitcoin transaction and how transaction data determines velocity, transaction count and value transferred. Register to join How to Value Bitcoin: On-Chain Transactions.

WHAT'S HOT

Euro will be overtaken by China's digital yuan if Europe has no central-bank digital currency by 2025 (dGen)

Mastercard releases "virtual testing environment" to help central banks simulate distribution and use of digital currencies (CoinDesk)

Huobi exchange now offering "savings product" paying annualized yield of 3.5% on bitcoin deposits (CoinDesk)

Argo, publicly traded blockchain firm, takes profit hit as costs rise faster than crypto-mining revenue (CoinDesk)

ECB President: Europe has fallen behind in the digital payments game (CoinDesk)

ANALOGS

The latest on the economy and traditional finance

Former Fed Chair Greenspan says U.S. government's budget deficit is "getting out of hand" (CNBC)

U.S. labor-market recovery stalls as weekly jobless claims at 884K exceed economists' estimate of 850K (CNBC)

With Century 21 closing, New Yorkers are wondering which businesses are next (Wall Street Journal)

Fear and frustration: Europe's wealthy keep wallets closed (Reuters)

The Taliban loves China's money, but can it forget its Muslim gulags? (Nikkei **Asian Review)**

Japan August exports set for another double-digit fall, core CPI to drop, poll shows (Reuters) WHAT'S HOT



Shooter 1/2 on a 4x McGavin @aetderb

Replying to @cz_binance

CeFi uses DeFi to make money and pays a small fraction of that back to the users account. Same logic as a traditional bank giving .05% apy on your funds and lending it to your neighbor for 12%. This is the crypto version, CeFi gives the illusion of security for their massive cut.

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