



A Special April Supplement of Feetprints

Cryptocurrency and Hiking

by John "Eli Lilly Smurf" Klebes

That's right, cryptocurrency has finally arrived in the hiking community. You have all heard about the classic cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, Ethereum and Dogecoin. Well, the hiking community now has it's own cryptocurrency: it's called Crypto-Sporidium.



It was actually first observed in circulation in January, 1976, but recently reached larger circulation in part by major support from the pharmaceutical industry.

Crypto coins, like Bitcoin, require large computer farms and resources, such as lots of electricity. As these cryptocurrencies have grown the cost to mine new coins has driven the price and created instability in the market. Crypto-Sporidium coins have the advantage that they are relatively easy to mine. Unlike the high investment needed in computer resources, Crypto-Sporidium coins can be mined using green resources with little infrastructure. In fact Crypto-Sporidium coins can be mined in rivers and lakes – especially when the water is contaminated with animal wastes. This ease of mining over other cryptocurrencies appears to be why so many hikers seem to be trading in Crypto-Sporidium.

Due to the ease of mining a ready supply of new Crypto-Sporidium coins, the pharmaceutical industry has invested heavily in developing more and more sources of cryptosporidium to make them the go-to crypto coin of the hiking community. That is probably why you see so many hikers collecting these crypto coins along the major long distance trails throughout the United States.

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Edition)

*"Well, the hiking community now has it's own cryptocurrency: it's called Crypto-Sporidium."
~ Eli Lilly Smurf*



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In fact, in a recent study, it was shown that the average hiker that fills a prescription at pharmacies along major hiking trails also collects Crypto-Sporidium cryptocurrency. Let's all get on board and invest in the future. Start collecting Crypto-Sporidium cryptocurrency today!

Eli Lilly Smurf (aka PaPa Smurf)

New 18-in-1 Product

by PaPa Smurf

"Instead of just a shampoo it's an 18-in-1 product that provides 18 different uses."

~ PaPa Smurf

Hey fellow ultralight hikers! Just found this new all-in-one product that is made just for us. Instead of just a shampoo it's an 18-in-1 product that provides 18 different uses. Saves so much weight as you don't need to bring all those little bottles and tubes and just need to bring one item. Great for survival/emergency kits, too. Put one in your backpack, one in the glove box of your car, and another in your first aid kit.

—PaPa Smurf



Recharging your Cellphone Using a Solar Charger

by PaPa Smurf

As an avid long distance hiker I really depend on my cellphone for communications, photography, and navigation, as well as entertainment at night in my tent. A means for recharging the battery in the field is very important. Recently I have seen many fellow hikers packing these little miniature battery packs with integrated solar panels.

Such a great idea. Unfortunately, my experiences with them have not been that great. Sure they work wonders in the bright sunlight. But my hikes are more than likely to be on overcast days, in the rain and weather, or hiking through the green tunnel where there is not sufficient sunlight to keep them charged.

Well, I have found a great hack to fix that problem. Turns out these little solar chargers work equally well under artificial light as with sunlight. Next time you are in need of charging just put your cellphone into flashlight mode and focus the light onto the solar panel. You can plug the charger into your cellphone to charge up your battery and at the same time use the flashlight mode of the cellphone to charge the solar panel. You will never run out of battery power again. Works great overnight in your tent. Use your phone flashlight mode to charge up the solar panel overnight when there is no sunlight available. Nifty, right?



Many of those solar charges also have an integrated flashlight mode, as well. Next time you need to boost the charge overnight try just turning on the solar charger's flashlight mode and put it in front of a small cosmetic mirror. The mirror will reflect the flashlight back onto the solar panel and away you go.

Look to PaPa Smurf for more of the latest hiking hacks....

—PaPa Smurf



PaPa Smurf

"Well, I have found a great hack to fix that problem."

~ PaPa Smurf



Win a trip to Komodo National Park!

by Dick Lost & in the Forest

"The most exciting thing about the park are the Komodo dragons..."

~ Dick Lost & in the Forest

"Komodo dragons are considered 'apex predators,' meaning that they are good hunters and that they are at the top of the food chain."

~ Dick Lost & in the Forest

PVHC is sponsoring an all-expenses-paid hiking trip and challenge to Komodo National Park (on one of either of the four islands of Komodo, Rinca, Gili Montang or Gili Dasami within the park) in the south-eastern Indonesian archipelago. The most exciting thing about the park are the Komodo dragons (*Varanus komodoensis*) (aka, big monitor lizards, the largest species of lizard in the world) that live within the park. So what's the catch?

Well, there is a catch. Think of it as a cross between two television shows and a movie: *Survivor* and *Naked and Afraid* and *The Hunger Games*. You don't have to be naked but you do have to be able to spend 24 hours straight in the park using only your own wits and resources – it's a requirement of the trip. Like the show *Naked and Afraid*, you will be given one item to take with you (no guns in a national park) and a map. You will be dropped off at one location and by the end of 24 hours you will have to find your way by hiking to another location - the map will guide you. You have two options: it's either survive the 24 hours of hiking in the park, or not.



If you either win or are chosen and accept this challenge what dangers will you be dealing with in the park? Komodo dragons, primarily. Komodo dragons are considered *apex predators*, meaning that they are good hunters and that they

are at the top of the food chain. They are carnivores (meat eaters). They have 60 razor-sharp teeth in their mouths and they can travel up

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to 12 mph at a sprint. Their favorite foods are the native Timor deer and carrion, which they can smell with their forked tongues up to 5 miles away. Their food is invertebrates, birds, and mammals - they have been known to attack human beings. One thing going for you in your favor, however, is that Komodos are thought to have poor night vision. It is also recommended that you do not wear sunscreen since it attracts Komodos, even though the climate will be exceedingly hot and humid. Komodos are excellent tree climbers – the younger Komodos sleep in trees to evade the bigger and more mature members of their species – and they are excellent divers. It was thought that the bite of the dragons is highly venomous but that has not been totally agreed upon by researchers. Their most active hunting time is in the afternoon. All of this information should be invaluable to you as you navigate the landscape during your 24-hour period in the park.

Further details about this all-expenses-paid hiking trip and challenge are to come. I hope that you either win or are chosen for this exciting prize package!

--Dick Lost & in the Forest

“Their favorite foods are the native Timor deer and carrion, which they can smell with their forked tongues up to 5 miles away.”

~ Dick Lost & in the Forest

UPCOMING EVENTS AND THE USUALS

- Every Mon. (MA) Monday Morning
Hikes w/ Chip
- Every Tues. (MA) Tuesday Morning
Hikes w/ Various Leaders
(MA) Tuesday Evening
Hikes w/ Lori
- Every Wed. (MA) Wednesday Morning
Hikes w/ Deb & Cheryl
- Every Thurs. (MA) Thursday Morning
Hikes w/ Various Leaders
- Every Sat. (MA) Saturday Morning
Hikes w/ Various Leaders
- Every Sun. (MA) Sunday Morning Hikes
w/ Various Leaders
- April 4 Club Meeting
- May 2 Club Meeting

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Next Club Meetings:
 Apr 4 , 2023, 7 p.m. at **FBC**
 May 2, 2023, 7 p.m. at **FBC**

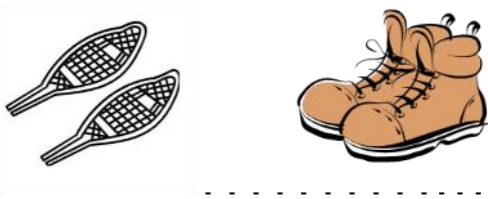
FBC - Red Oak Church, 337 Piper Road, West Springfield

This issue of *Footprints* is dedicated to my Mentor-in-Jest, John "PaPa Smurf" Klebes, former *Footprints* Editor ~ Dick Lost & In the Forest

Deadline for submissions to the next *Bootprints* is April 20, 2023

**** Check out our web page at:**
www.pioneervalleyhikingclub.org

Members may join the PVHC Email List by sending a message to:
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