

# Gradual death of our party balloons



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f my wife Françoise on 7 August we bought seven helium balloons and decided to leave them there to see what happens. Each balloon leaks helium at a different rate and they do a slow dance, up and down, side to side, and we shall see how long it takes for them to finally hit the ground so to speak.

It never ceases to amaze me the stupidity and low intelligence of those who think they can con money out of us by promising huge financial rewards for not doing anything. I enclose a letter I just received this morning. There are 13 spelling and grammar mistakes and yet I can guarantee that someone somewhere will be stupid enough to give their phone number and be pestered by very convincing-sounding people that they should wire \$155 and never see it again. There will of course be other charges for administration; the idea is to bleed the person dry. To be financially needy sometimes switches off your brain and desperate people will do what ever they are

told.

*xFrom the Desk Of MrJohn C Williams  
Federal Reserve Bank  
Today at 2:20 AM  
Headquarter: New York, NY, United States of America  
Founded : 1914, New York City, New York, United States  
ADDRESS : 33 Liberty Sta New York , NY 10045-0001*

*Did you authorize Mrs. Annette Stillman of Kemuning Ray  
Street NO.8, Tomang.  
Jakarta, Indonesia to pay the pending wire transfer charges  
and claim  
your WORLD BANK/IMF assisted scam victim compensation funds  
of \$9.5million  
USD?*

*She is here with us now, with the sum of \$155 usd for the  
pending wire  
transfer charges, you are alerted to reply urgent so that  
if she is not from you we will have her by FBI but do  
reconfirm to this bank as a matter of  
urgency if this woman is from you or not so that the  
federal government will not be held responsible for paying  
into wrong account thank you..*

*You are to come back to us with your*

*PHONE::NUMBER*

*YOU ARE ALERTED TO REPLY SO URGENT NOW ! NOW !  
VIA OUR MOBILE NUMBER:  
+1(347)391-2671*

*Sincerely.*

*Mr John C Williams  
Director Federal Reserve Bank*

NB [John C Williams does in fact exist](#) and is the president and

chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank. I don't suppose he appreciates his name being used in this way but I somehow don't think that this matter will be at the top of his list of concerns.

Today a lady rang me from the Sustainable Food Project asking if there were any excess food from our allotments. I had indeed been round and saw how much food was being wasted by not being picked so that was the ideal time to write to my allotmentees and ask them in a tactful way if there was scope for giving the excess – runner beans for example – which are always prolific at this time of year.