



RAFFLE RAISES FUNDS TO CLEAN, BEAUTIFY AND STOCK CITY PARK POND

Students from a variety of programs at Delgado Community College are joining efforts to restore the pond that is a central feature, and an important part of the natural ecosystem, of Delgado's City Park Campus. Among the classes participating in the pond restoration project are: Management (project planning), Business (marketing), Biology (maintenance) and Horticulture (planting).

The pond, which meanders through the center of the campus to provide both a beautiful part of the landscaping and a home to various flora and fauna, suffered damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as did much of the campus.

To help raise the funds to purchase fish and plants, as well as repair the aeration system, to once again make the pond a beautiful and sustainable feature of the campus, more than 150 students sold tickets for a "Restore the Pond" 50/50 raffle on April 1-2. Ticket sales raised \$2,334, half of which was won in the raffle by part-time business student Michelle Williams, and half of which is, among other assistance, helping to purchase fish, irises and other plant life for the pond.

On April 16, 400 fish purchased with a portion of these funds were released into the pond.

The fish, which included 25 koi, 30 large goldfish and 150 comets, were purchased from Jefferson Feed at a generous discount. They were flown in from Sequest Farms in Gibsonton, Fla. We picked them up at Jefferson Feed as they arrived by van from the airport.

Koi live 30 years on average, with the oldest recorded to be 222 years old, and grow to 3 feet in length. Goldfish live 20 years on average, with the oldest recorded to be 41 yrs old, and grow to 6 inches on average. Comets live 14 years and grow to 12 inches in length on average. A benefit of having these fish living in the City Park pond is that not only will they eat the algae in the pond, but they will also eat mosquito larvae and other water-borne insects.

The next improvements to the pond are expected to be the addition of a variety of flowering plants and other landscaping by Delgado's Horticulture program.

For more information about the pond restoration project, contact Fred Tuhro at ftuhro@dcc.edu .



Fred Tuhro (left) and Dean Warren Puneky present \$1,167 to raffle winner Michelle Williams



400 "Nemos" are freed into the City Park pond on April 16