

After Finding His "Dream Job," Coach Now Helps Other People Land Theirs

by Cindee de la Vara, Staff Writer, Contra Costa Sun

The quest for a dream job is anything but reverie to Joel Garfinkle. He takes coaching his clients through their search very seriously.

"Clients come to me in a quiet sense of desperation, in that they've done the same job for 15 years and they want to get out of it immediately," said Garfinkle, founder of Dream Job Coaching.

Utilizing individual, group and executive coaching, workshops and consultations to organizations, he coaches his clients to enjoy successful careers, to love the jobs they have or to land their dream jobs.

Garfinkle, who lives in Montclair, often finds that people aren't passionate about their jobs. "People are trapped by finances, time and identity when they come to me. They may be successful in the jobs they're in by society's standards : they're making the six to seven figure incomes, they have a family and a mortgage : however, if they're not using their gifts and talents, they feel unfulfilled in their job," he said.

"I love helping people find what their passions are and assisting them in realizing their potential. I enjoy helping them to understand what their gifts are, to embrace those gifts and to own them," Garfinkle said poetically.

Joani Carpenter of Moraga left her job as the vice president of a software development company last May, after 11 years.

"Although I was challenged by my work, I found that I was drawn by my passions to make a career change." she said.

Carpenter, who has traveled extensively, is actively seeking work where she can incorporate her enthusiasm for developing countries with her desire to be as effective as possible.

Carpenter was referred to Garfinkle through the Alumni Association at UC Berkeley. She read Garfinkle's self-published book, "Land Your Dream Job: The Last Career Search Book You'll Ever Need," and is coached by him through a series of scheduled phone calls.

"My next step will be to network with people in my dream field and, hopefully, I will land something within a month," she said.

