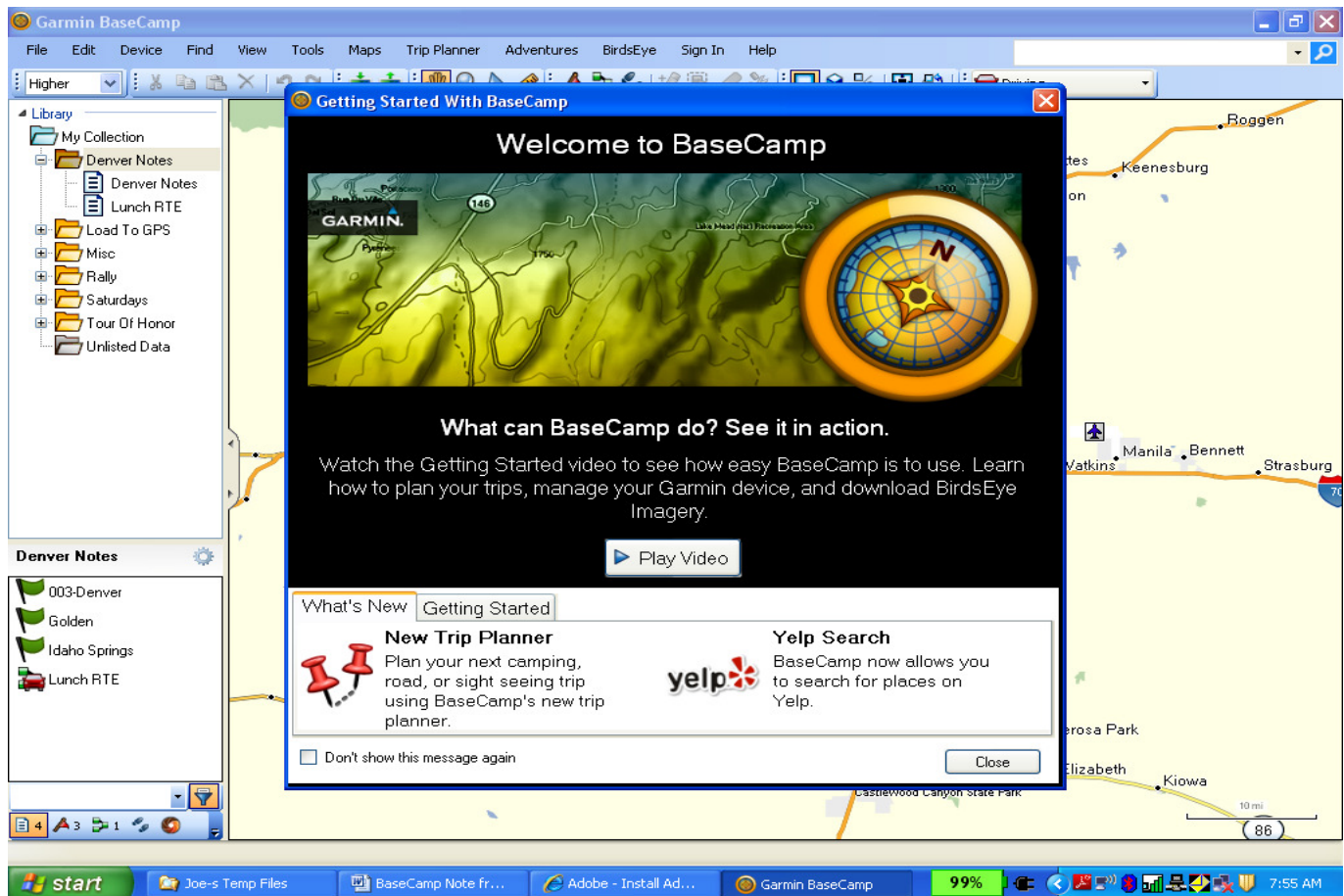# BASE CAMP NOTES

FROM THE

IBA 2014 MEET

IN DENVER

On Saturday, August 23, 2014, Maura Gatensby held a Base Camp class at the IBA 2014 Meet in Denver. What follows is my interpretation of what she presented. Just remember, what I think I heard may not be what she thinks she said. Proceed at your own risk. Some folks not able to be at the Meet wanted to know what Maura covered. I hope these notes do justice to Maura's presentation as well as help those not there. Since I've learned so much from Maura, I thought these notes might help others learn BaseCamp also. (NOTE: This document has been reviewed by and now contains edits and input by Maura)

There are many good Garmin videos on Base Camp that you are encouraged to watch on line.

As best that I could keep up with Maura (taking notes while she was talking), here is what I think she covered:

Changing the page view
Viewing ALL of your waypoints, routes and tracks at one time by clicking on 'My Collection'
Organizing Folders
Duplicating Routes and Waypoints
Editing waypoints
Getting Waypoints Into A BaseCamp Working List
      --From My Collection
      --Using the Waypoint icon
      --Find POIs
      --Rally Bonus list (.gpx file)
Creating a Route
      --Arrival times (open route to edit arrival time so you can work back and determine your departure time)
      --Route name
      --Transportation/travel mode options and preferences, 'driving' preferred over 'motorcycling' if you want to make time
      --Route color (can change, open route for route options box)
      --Turn by turn directions
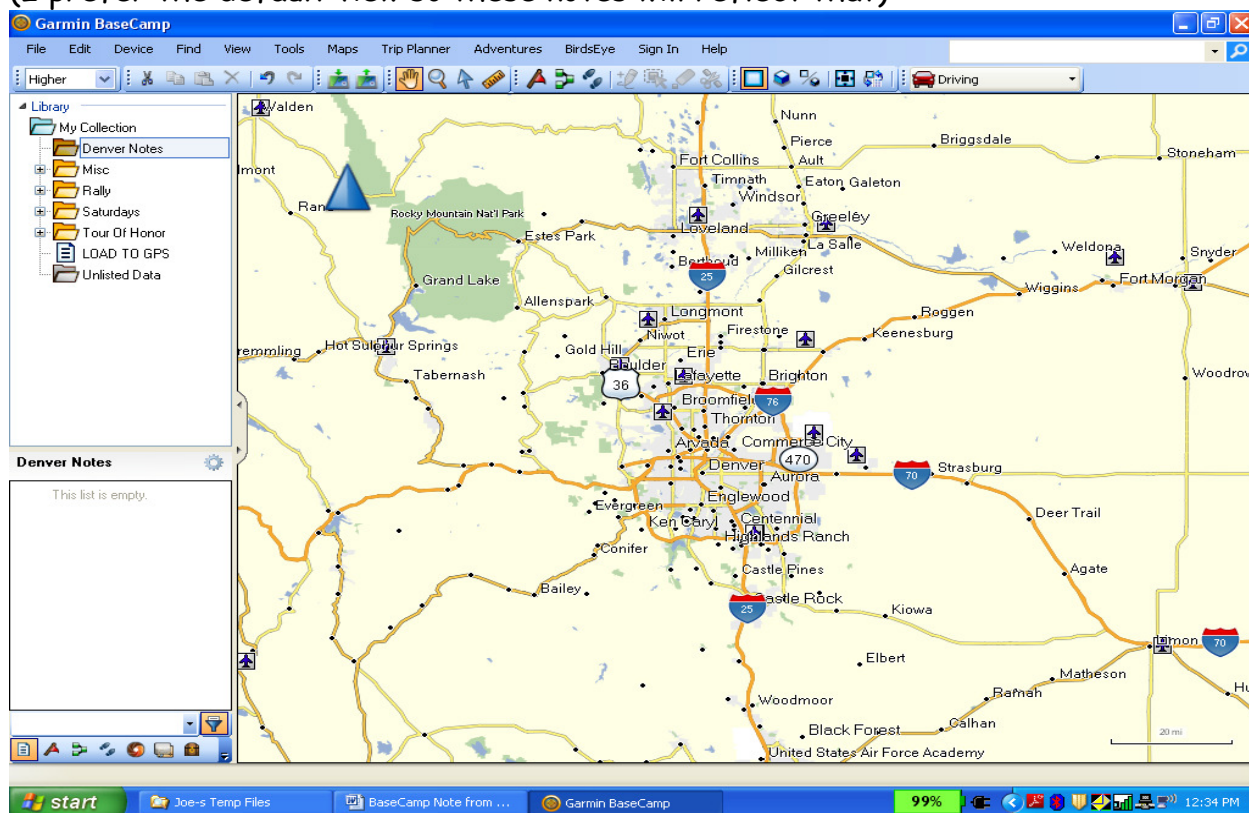   --Route options
Creating the Return Route
Tracks- usefulness for analyzing your riding or going back and creating a log
Multiple routes at one time
Using the Select option to hone in on bonus locations

Change the page view

You may prefer a page view other than the default mode. Here's the default view:
(I prefer the default view so these notes will reflect that)

You can change that by using the "Swap Map and Data Views" icon to get a different look.
Hold your cursor over the icons until you get the one saying "Swap Map and Data Views".
Click it and the page view changes:
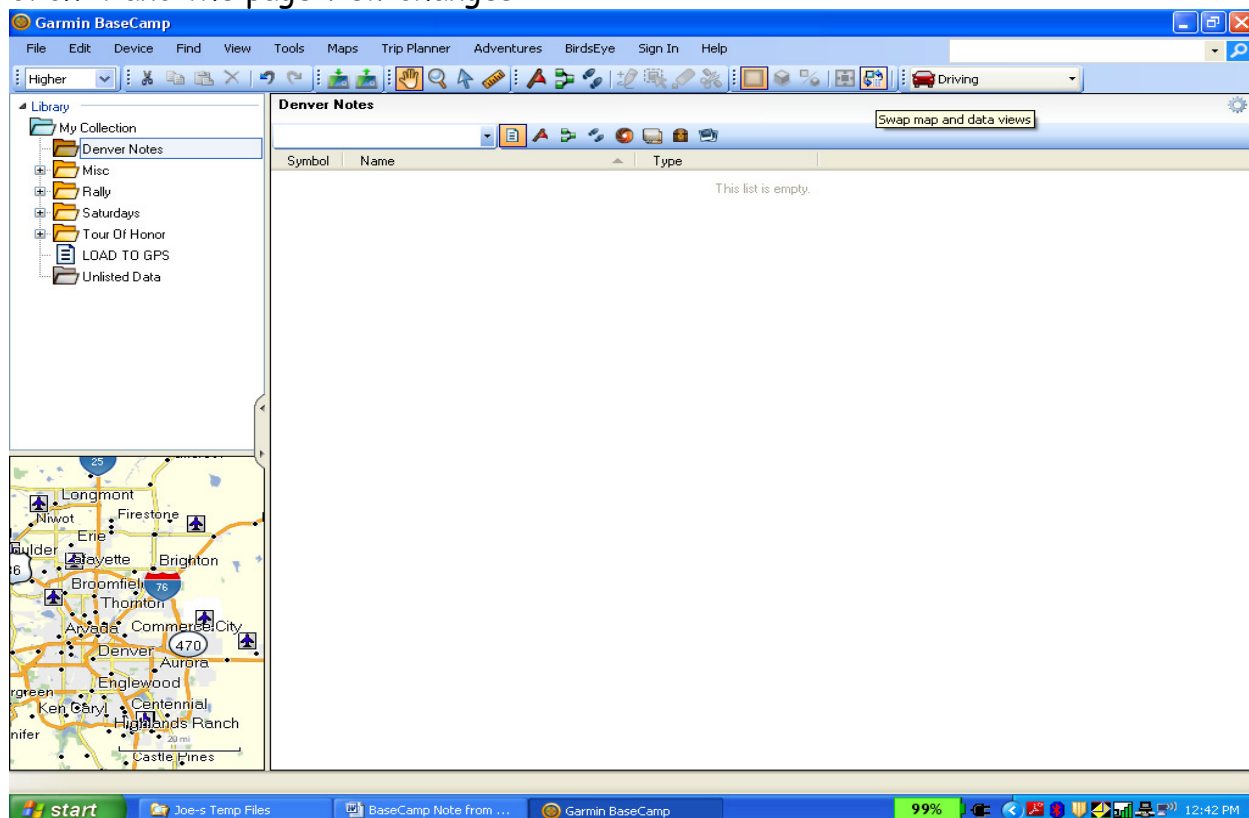
The alternative method is to use the right or left arrow head found on the vertical gray bar separating the left column from the larger right column. Although these screen prints are not revealing my cursor, you can see the text box that pops up when I hold my cursor over the arrow head.
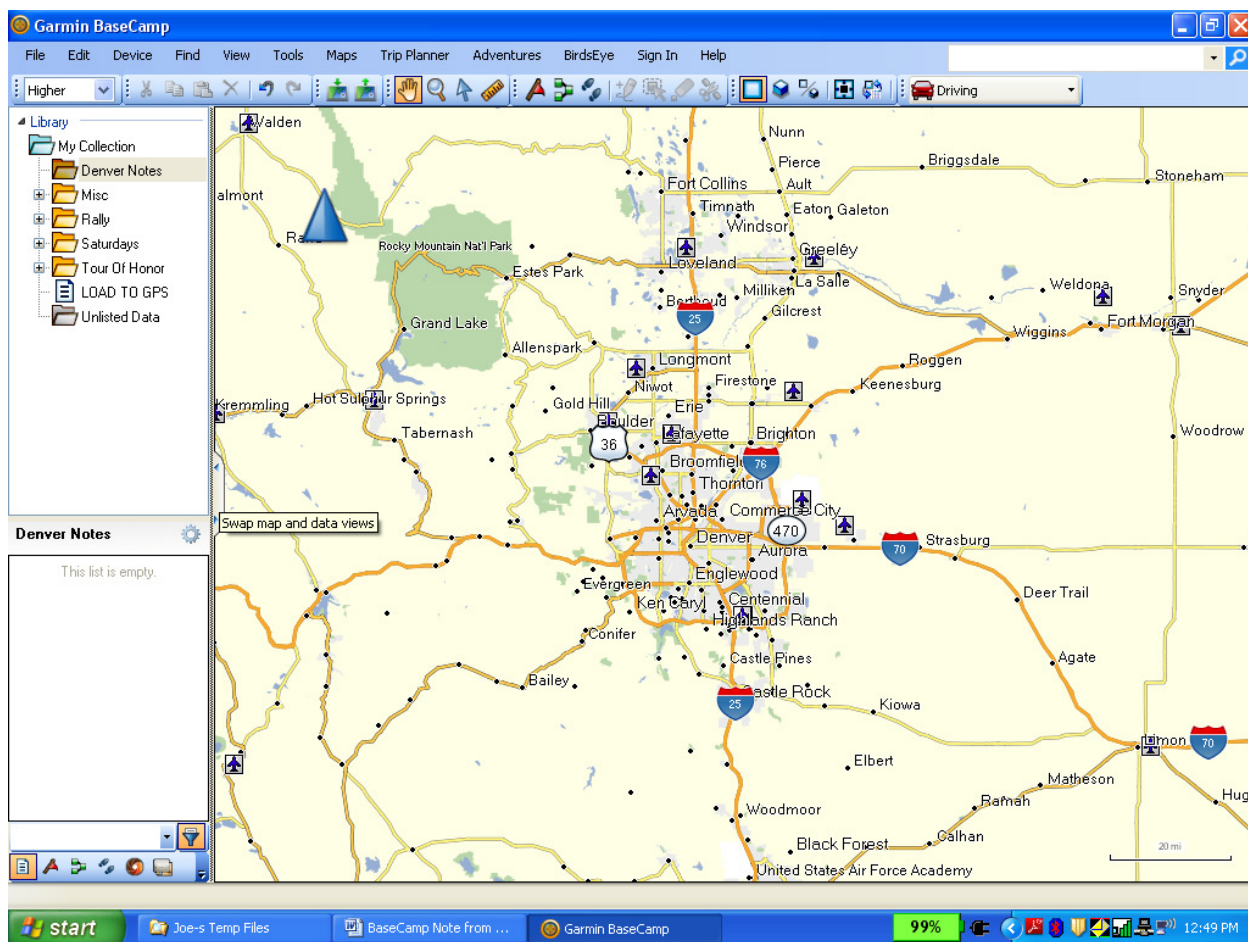
Also, you can adjust the size of each of the sections on your page. For changing the sizes of the sections simply hold your cursor over the vertical gray bar separating the left column from the larger right one, or over the horizontal gray bar at the bottom of the Library box between the two boxes in the left column. In so doing you'll get arrowheads that pop up. Right click your mouse and continue to hold that down while moving the line to your newly desired location, resizing the boxes as you wish.

Viewing ALL of your waypoints, routes and tracks at one time

BaseCamp stores your information all together in the master list folder called My Collection. If you highlight it, you'll see everything you have. (If you have nothing and are just starting, this session will get you some "stuff" to save)
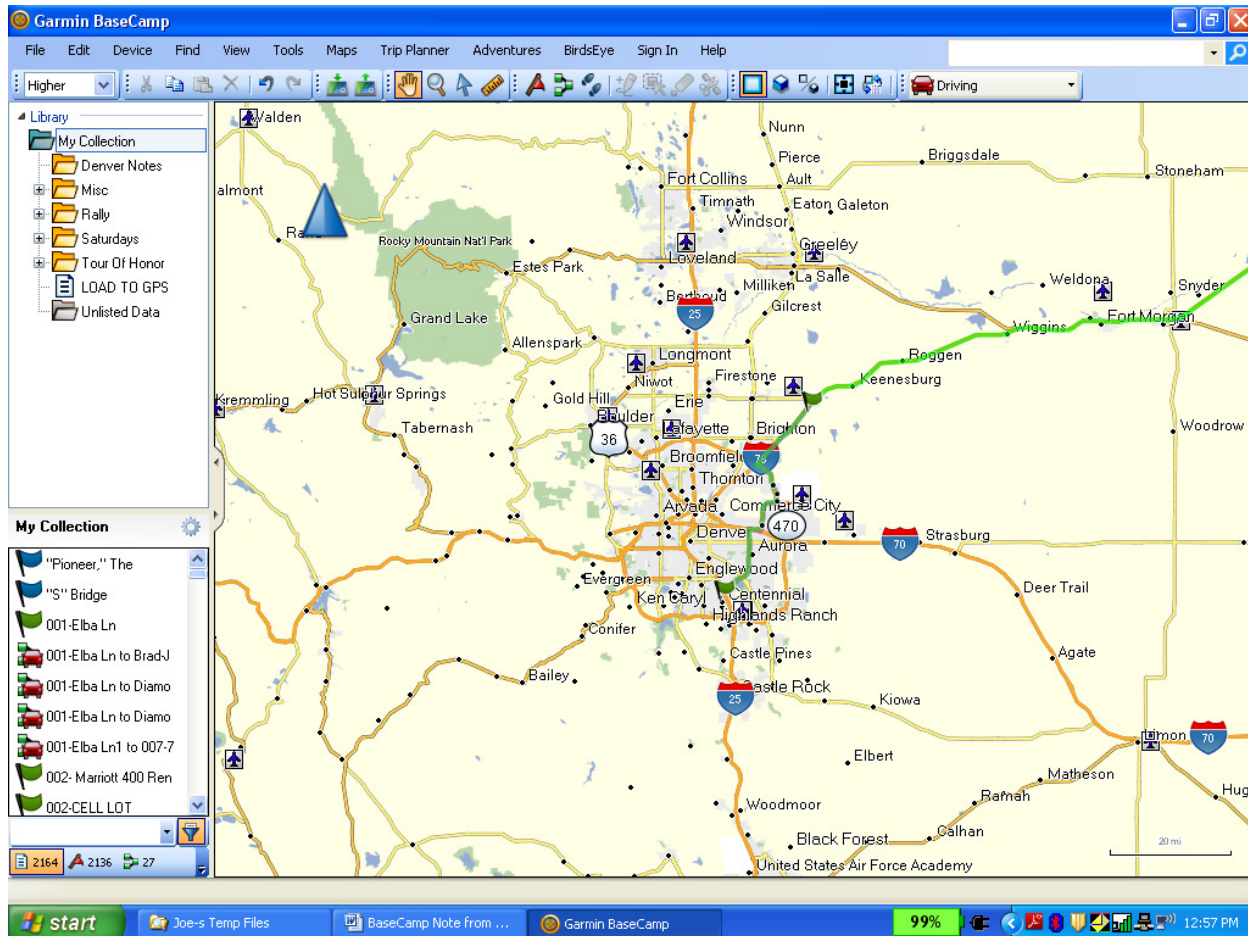

Notice the blue tinted line at the bottom of the left column. I have the "Show All User Data" icon highlighted, so everything is shown in the data box immediately above it. There are 2,164 pieces of data in My Collection. Click on the waypoint flag and only 2,136 waypoints would be seen. Click on the route icon and only 27 pieces of data would be seen in the data box. I have no tracks saved at this point, so the tracks icon does not even show up.

If you ever forget into which route you placed a particular waypoint, or into which list folder you placed a route, and you want to find that route or waypoint, then just click on My Collection and a quick scroll (or a quick stroll) through your saved data will reveal it.

Organizing Folders

Some folks are neat freaks, continually organizing their files. You can start by creating a new list folder or a new list. In the left column in your Library, click on My Collection. With that highlighted go up and click on the File tab. Hold the cursor on New, and slide your cursor over to List or List Folder to create either. The new List or List Folder will appear in your My Collection in your Library. You can then rename them appropriately.
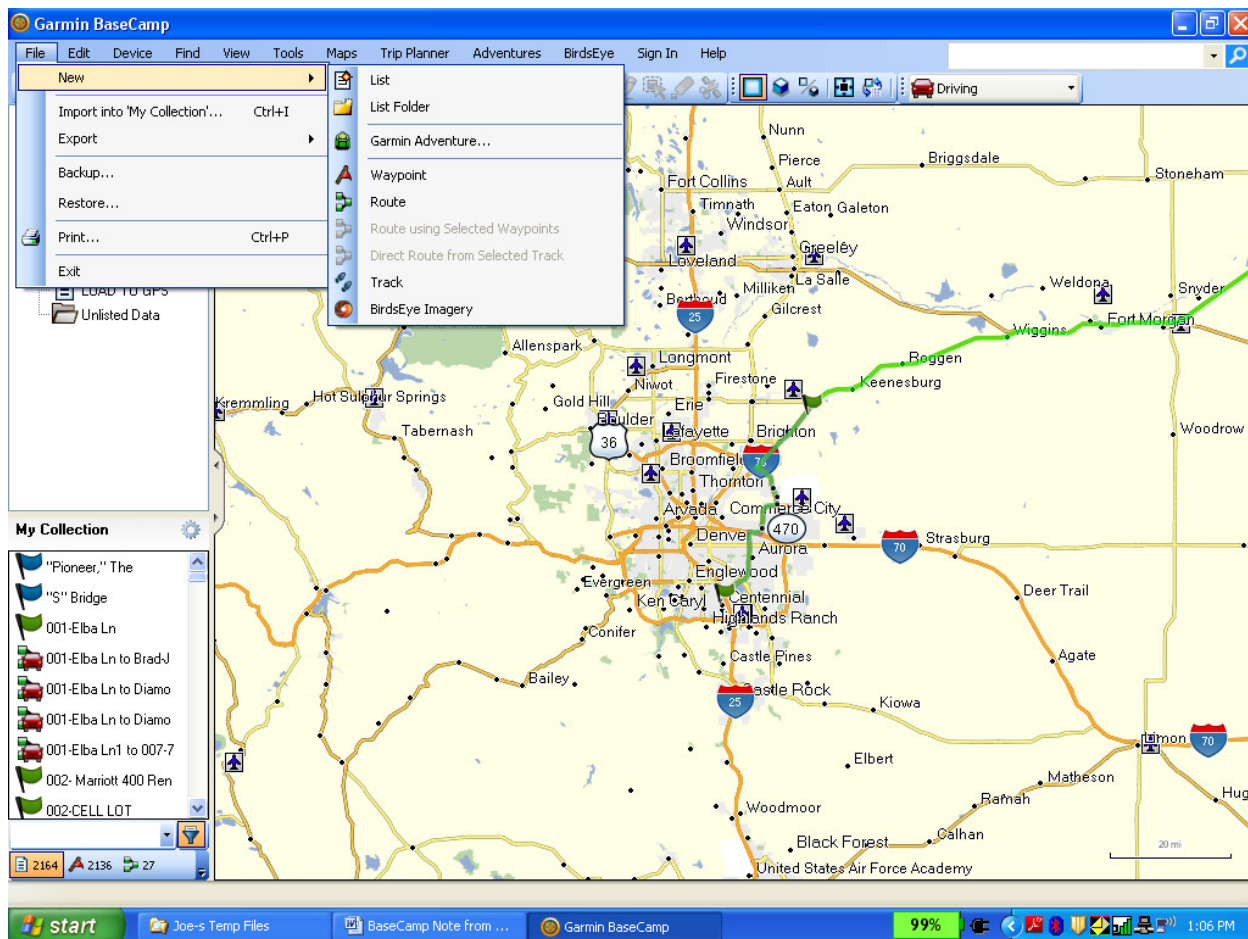

Once you use Base Camp long enough you will end up with many lists or list folders. You may want to place multiple lists into one list folder. To move items in you're my Collection, highlight the item and drag it to its new desired location using your mouse (right click and hold while you drag it).

In this example I want the list "Load To GPS" that is in my Tour Of Honor file to be in the folder called "Load To GPS". Click on the list name:
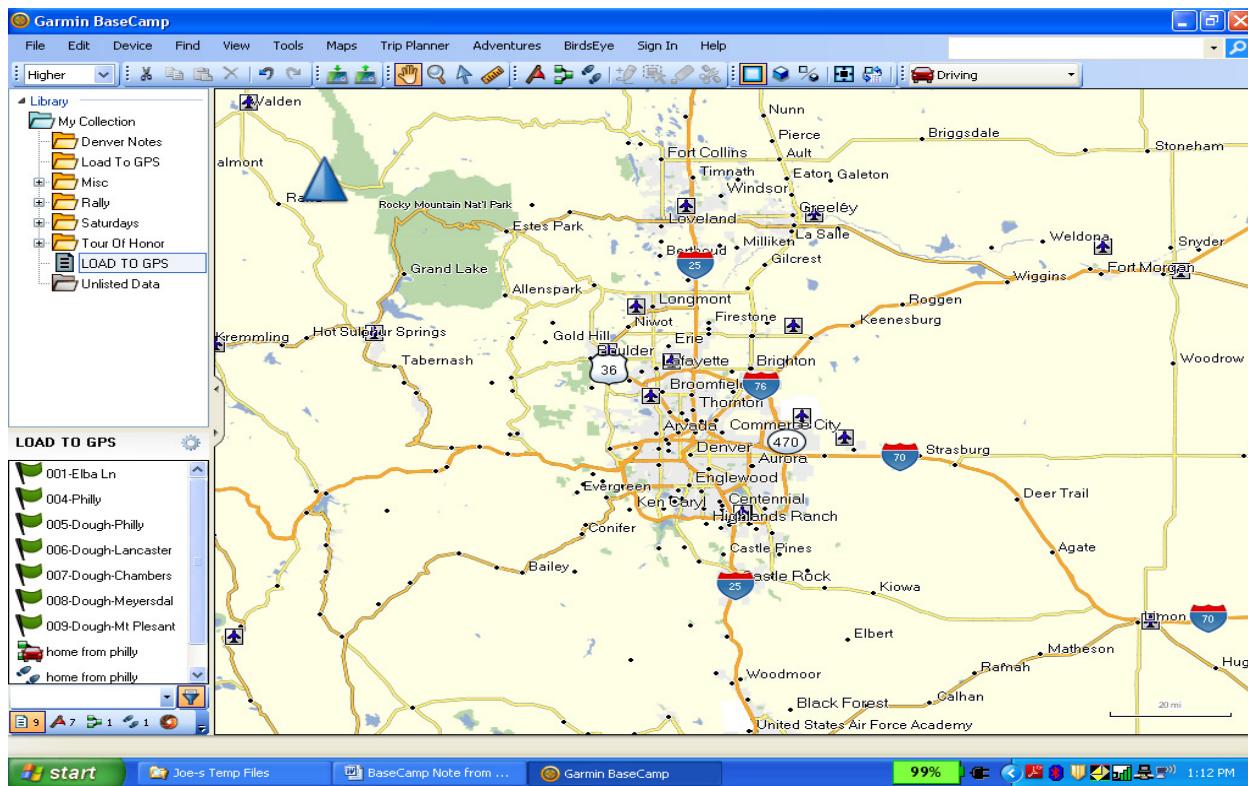
Then drag the list up to the folder and drop it in.
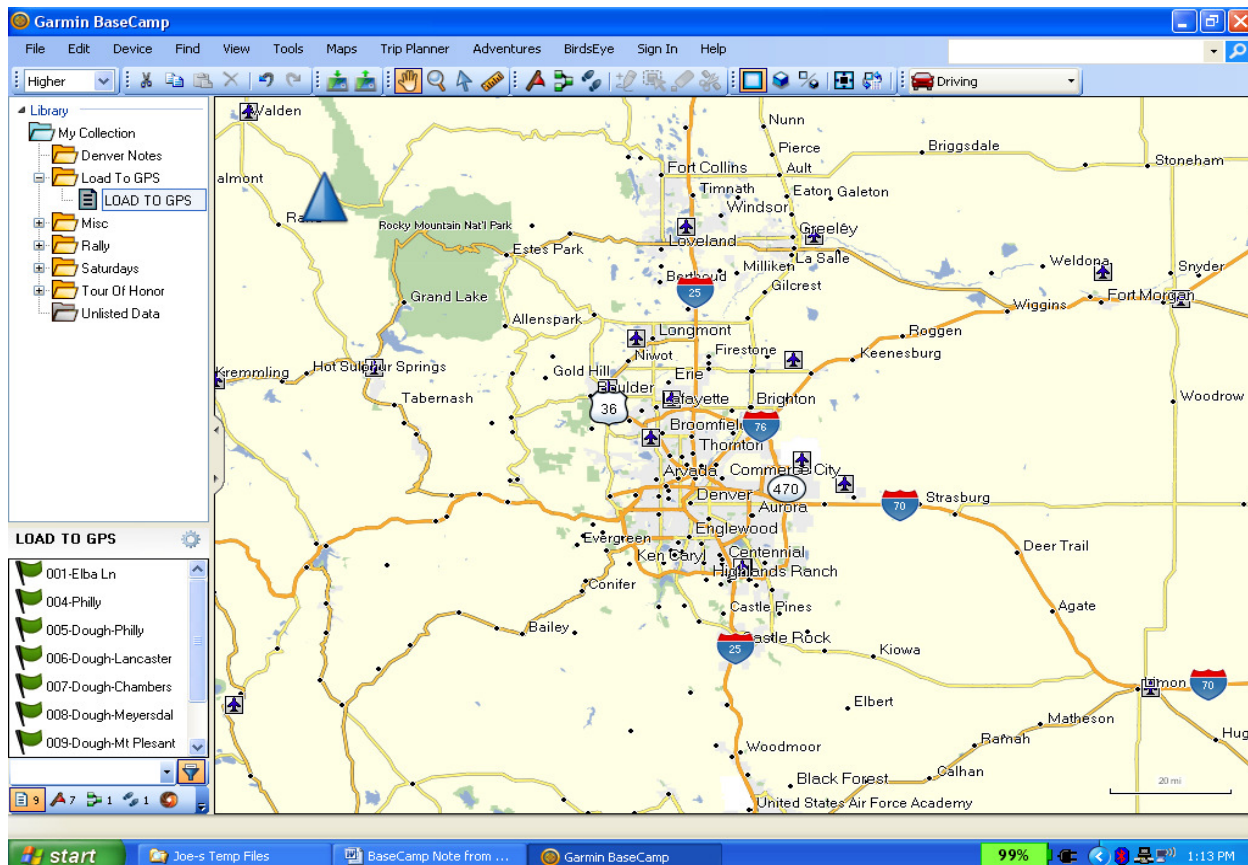
Duplicating Routes and Waypoints

Base Camp allows you to place multiple waypoints and multiple routes on a map. If you create a base route and want to make various iterations of it without changing the original, duplicate it. Select the list folder and then the list. When you click on the list, all of its contents are shown in the data box in the lower left column. Select the waypoint or route you want to duplicate. Right click and a menu box pops up. Click on duplicate. You'll see the duplicate in your data box. Rename it as appropriate. Then proceed with whatever editing of that route or waypoint you desired. This is a simple way to check subtle differences between routes. And when comparing routes, you should change the colors of the routes (especially if portions of them are the same roads) so that you can easily see the differences. It is not possible to have multiple colors in one route. So if you want one portion of a trip one color and another portion a different color, you'll need to make those two separate routes. Trips from Point A to Point B and then back to Point A will require you to make two routes if you want each leg to be its own color.
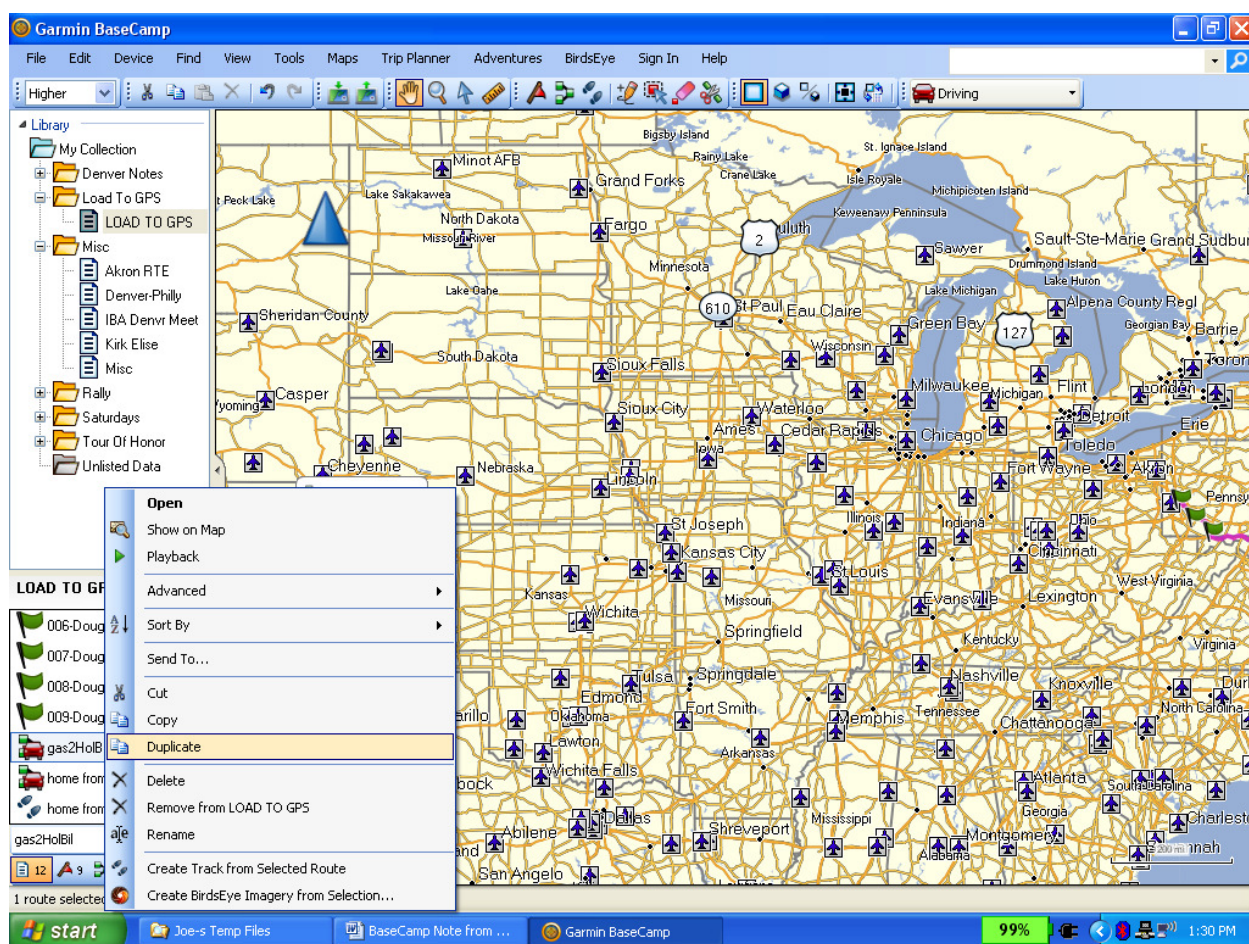
Editing waypoints

Once you have waypoints in your Library, you can edit their properties individually or in a bunch. Highlight the waypoint(s) shown in the data box. Right click and you get a pop up box. Select Open.
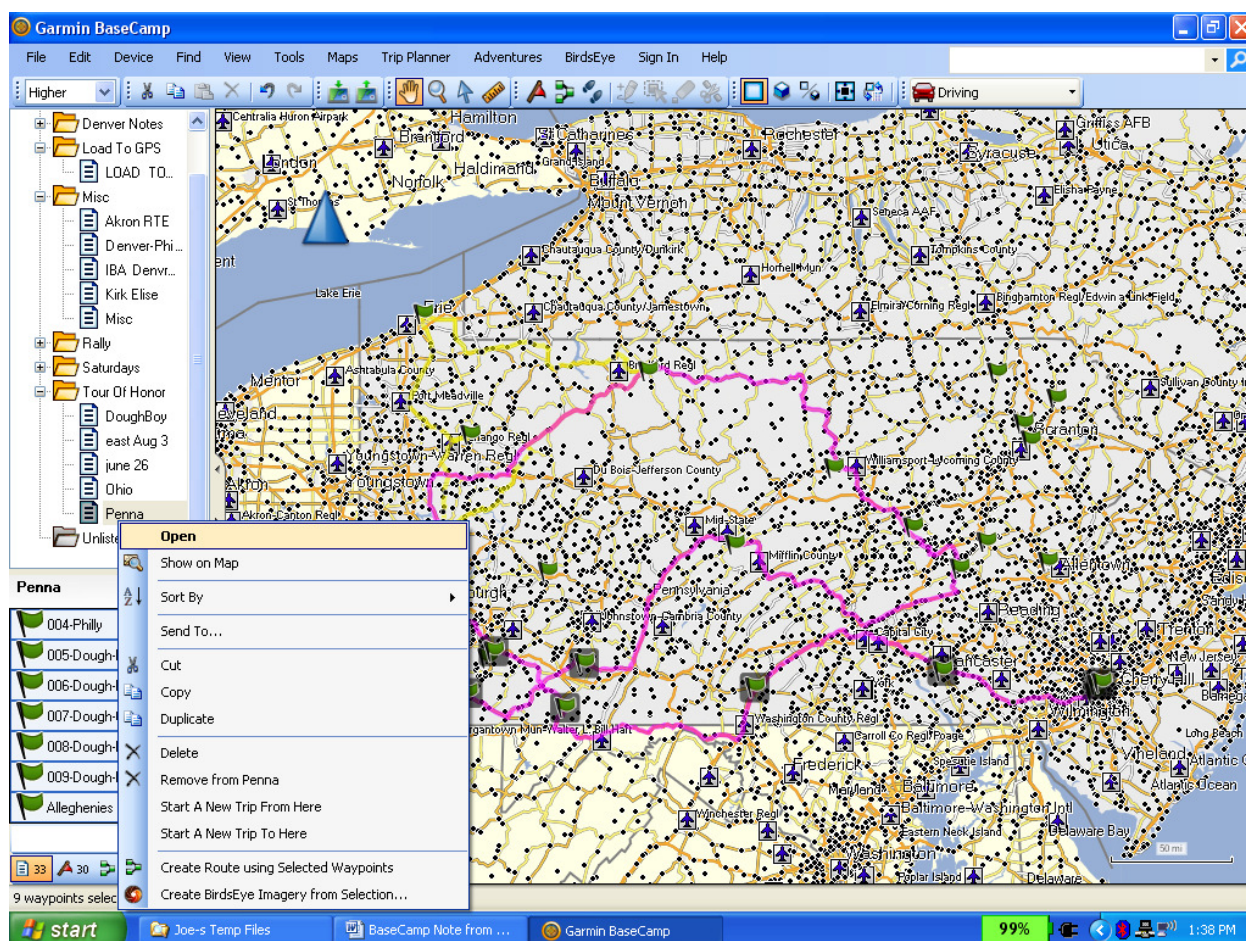

This gives you a waypoint properties box. If you selected multiple waypoints, you can only edit that which is common to ALL of the selected waypoints. In most cases that is limited to the symbol. Click on the down arrow by the symbol and pick your desired symbol. Typically when you get a list of waypoints from a Rally Master, the default symbol is a black dot. Since Base Camp uses black dots for indicating places, you might not be able to readily see your waypoints for the rally.

Notice in the screenprint below that it tells you 9 waypoints were selected.
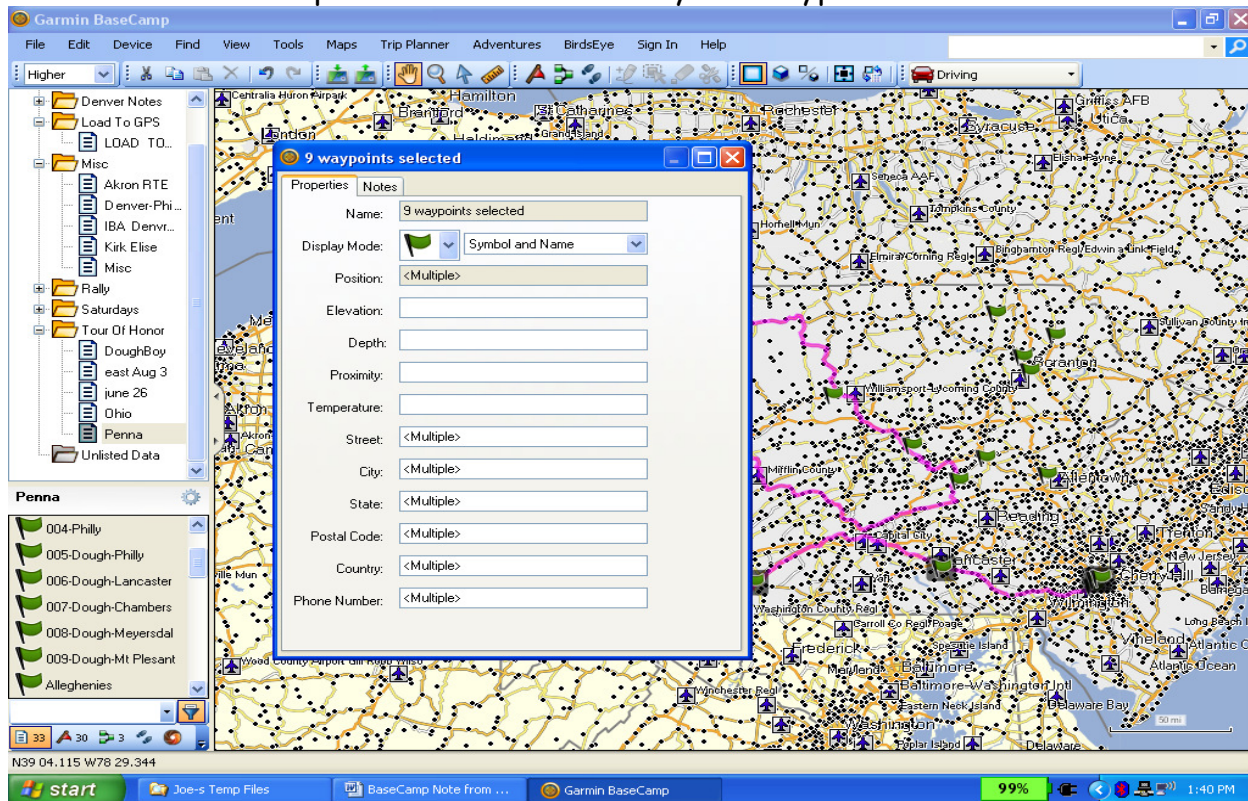
If you highlight one single waypoint in your data box, right click, and select Open you get the same properties box but whatever info you place in that box it will pertain to only that one waypoint. BaseCamp tells you only one waypoint was selected because the name of that waypoint is in the name portion of the properties box.
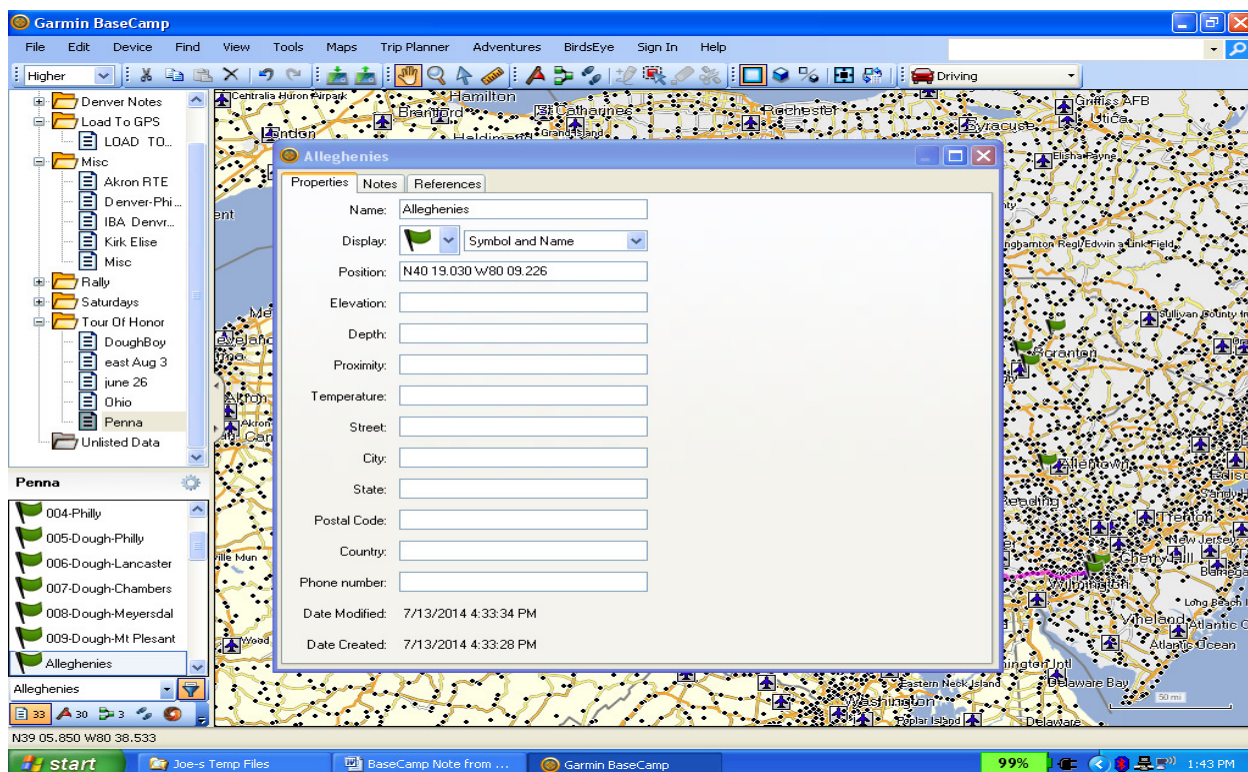
Getting Waypoints Into A BaseCamp Working List

You have multiple options:

1. Create a new working list folder and list. Click on My Collection. All your waypoints will be in the data box, below the Library in the left column. At the very bottom of the left column, even below the data box, click on the waypoints. Only waypoints are now shown in your data box. Highlight all by going to the first waypoint, holding down the shift key and then press the down arrow. Or highlight specific ones from the list by holding down the control key and clicking your mouse over specific waypoints on the list. Once you have your selected waypoints, move them to the list by dragging them up and dropping them on the list. This works for dealing with waypoints that you already have installed from other sources, including friends, rallies, etc….

2. Create a new working list folder and list. Use the waypoint icon in the tool bar to manually locate a waypoint on your map exactly where you desire. Hold your mouse over the icons and "New Waypoint" will pop up. Your cursor is now the flag so where ever you place your mouse cursor on the map and left click, you create a waypoint.
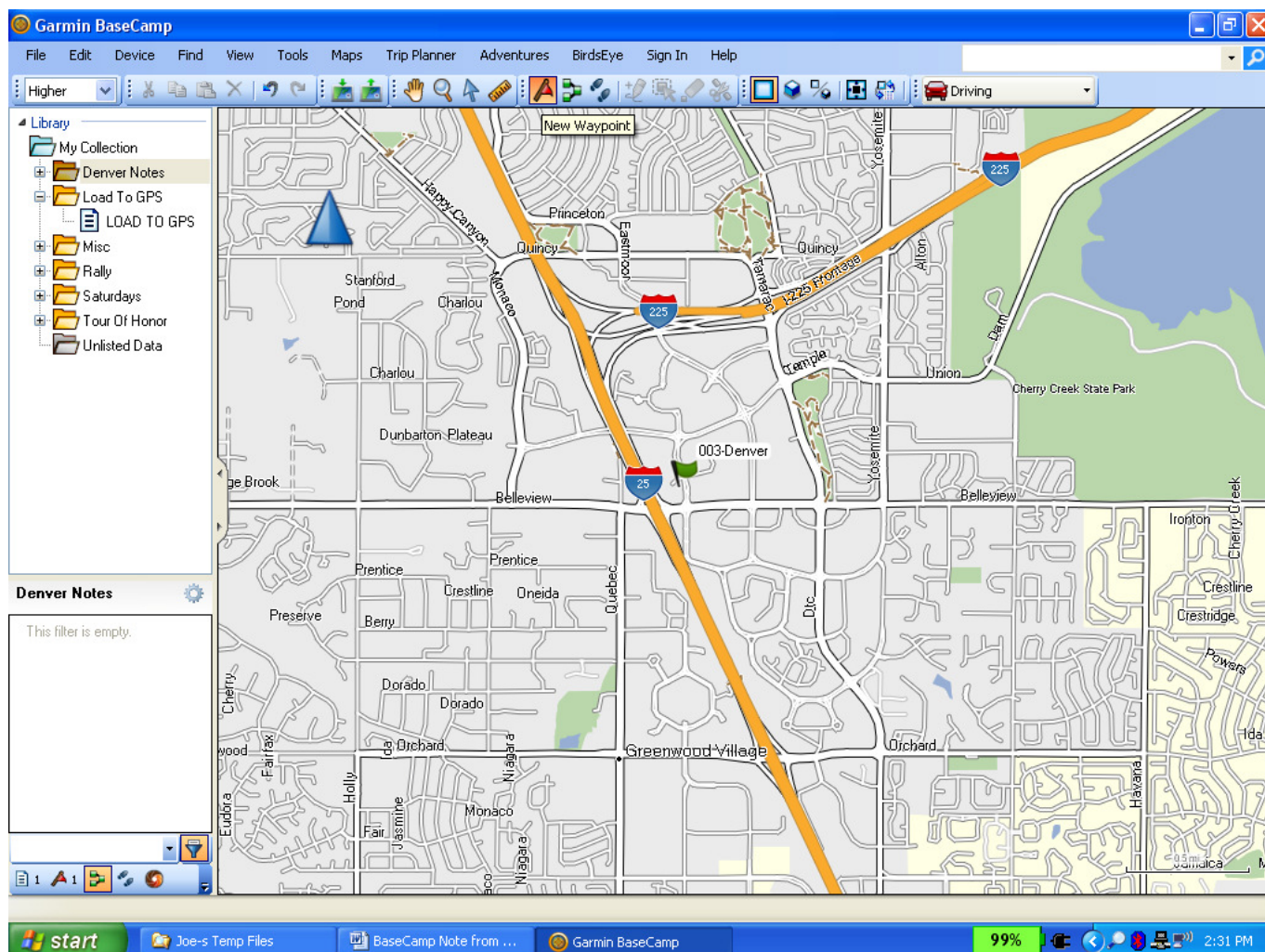
3. Create a new working list folder and list. Using the Find option, Maura showed how you could put a waypoint at Idaho Springs if you wanted to ride out for the lunch with Mike Kneebone. Using the Find tab, click to reveal the menu. Idaho Springs is a city, which Base Camp considers to be a Point of Interest (POI). Click on POI.
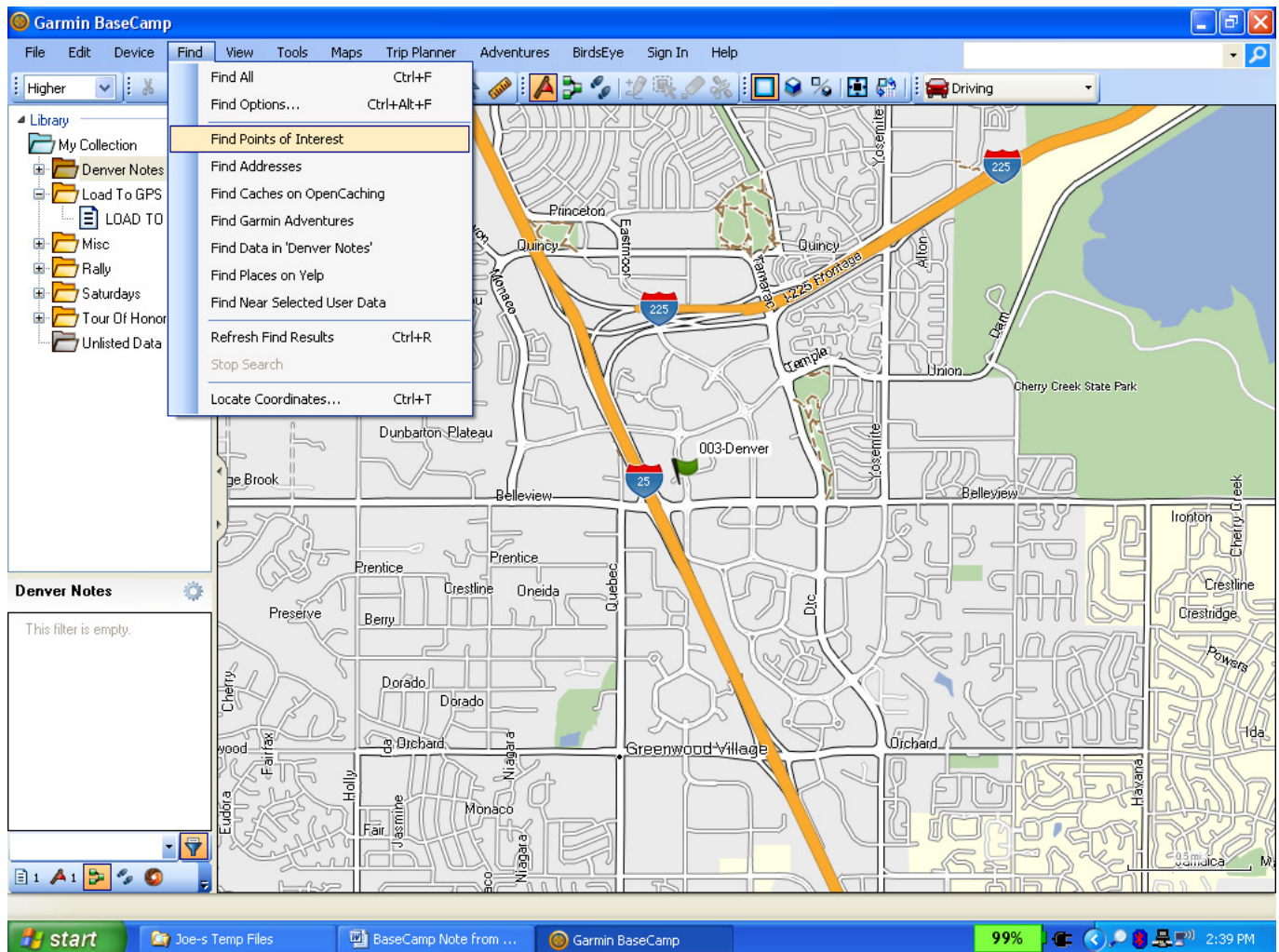
A new column will open on the right of your Base Camp screen. It is pre-populated with what Garmin thinks are POIs. Narrow your search population from ALL to just the Cities. Click the down arrow and select Cities.
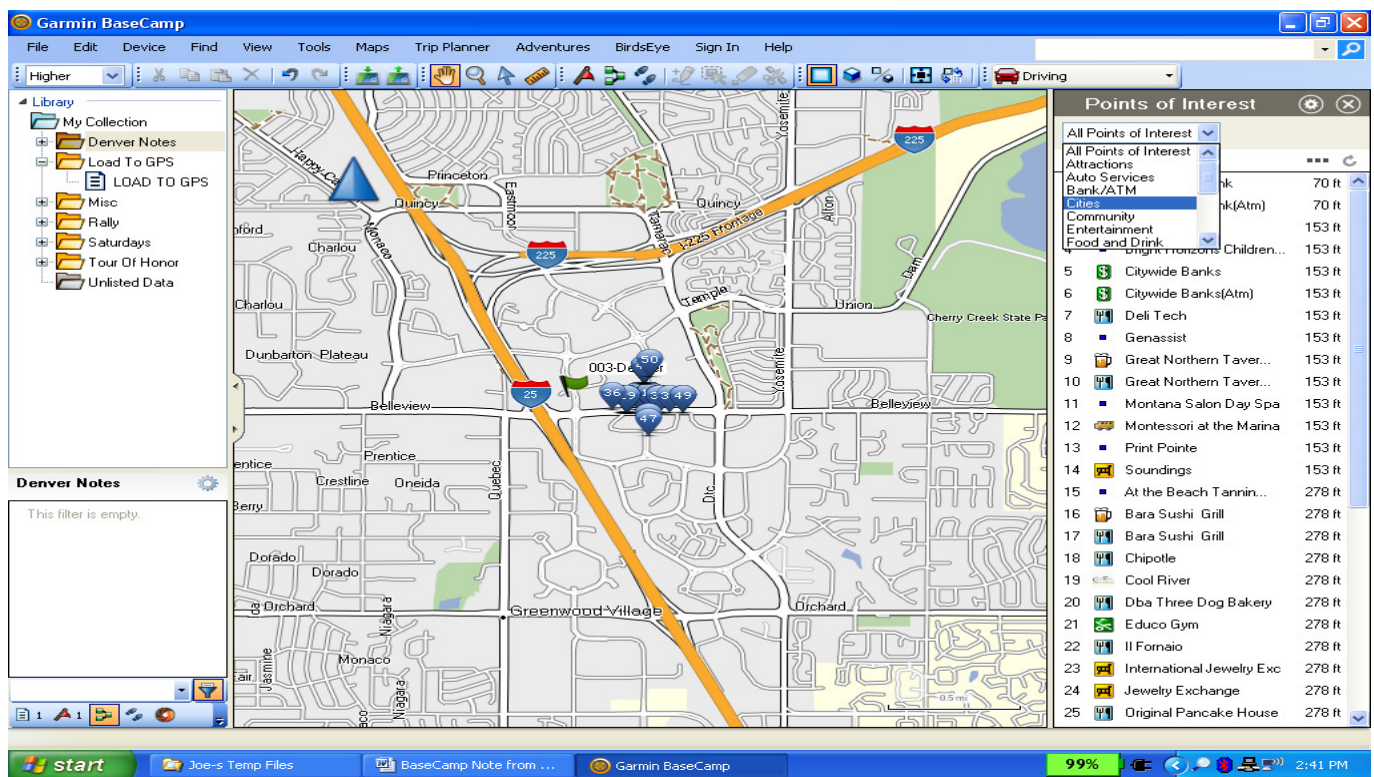
You will receive a list of cities:
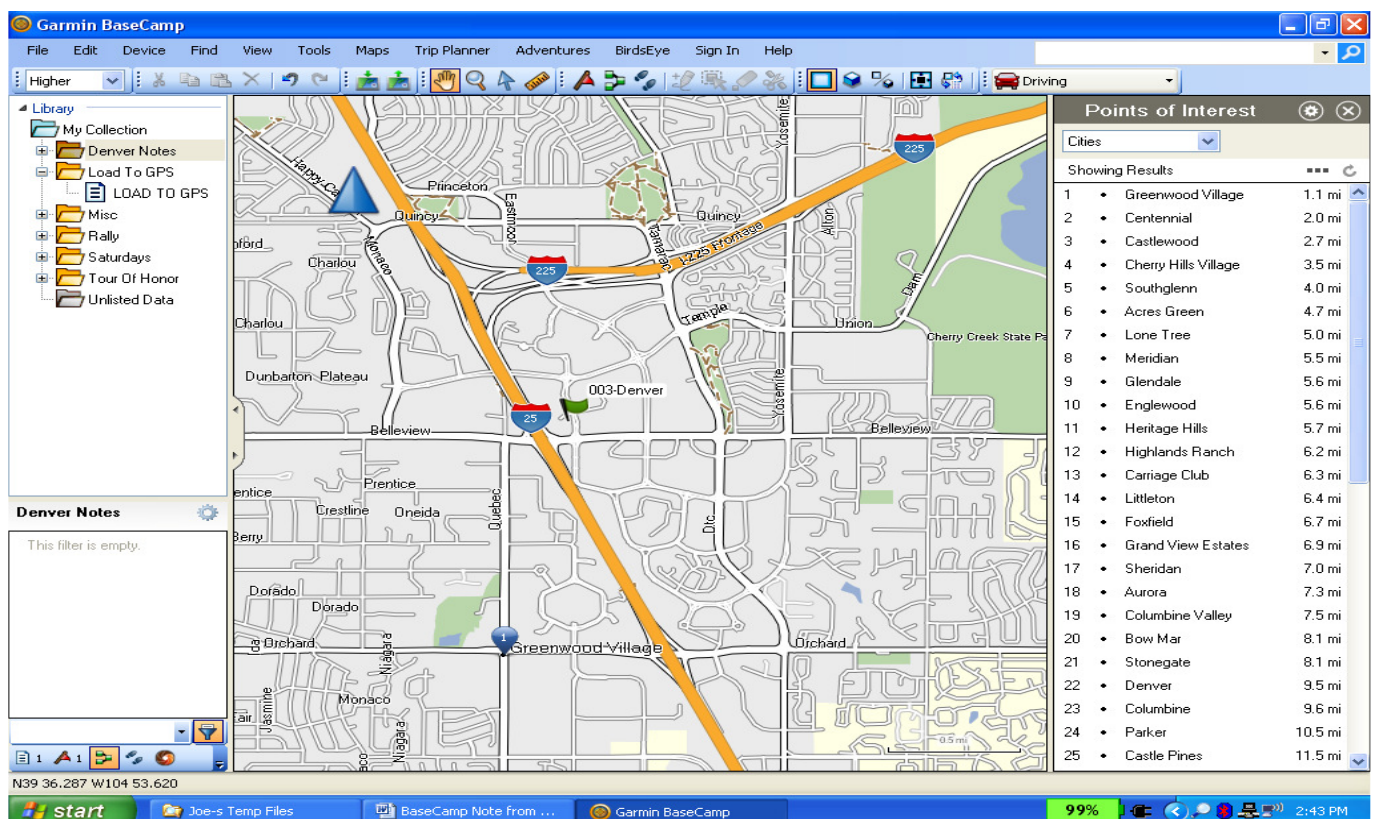
Searches produce best results when you are zoomed in to a selected target area. The more narrow you can make the search area, the better and quicker your search results will be. Use the Select icon from the tool bar to create the search window on your map. Once you click the icon your cursor becomes the Select icon. Click on a spot on the map and pull your mouse around, creating a geographic search box from within which BaseCamp will search for Idaho Springs.

To simplify the search, type Idaho Springs into the white box located in the upper right corner of the computer screen, above the POI column on the right. Click the blue magnifying glass to its right. Idaho Springs comes up in the search column.

You could get multiple Idaho Springs in the right column as a result of the search. You need to be sure you are selected the correct one.
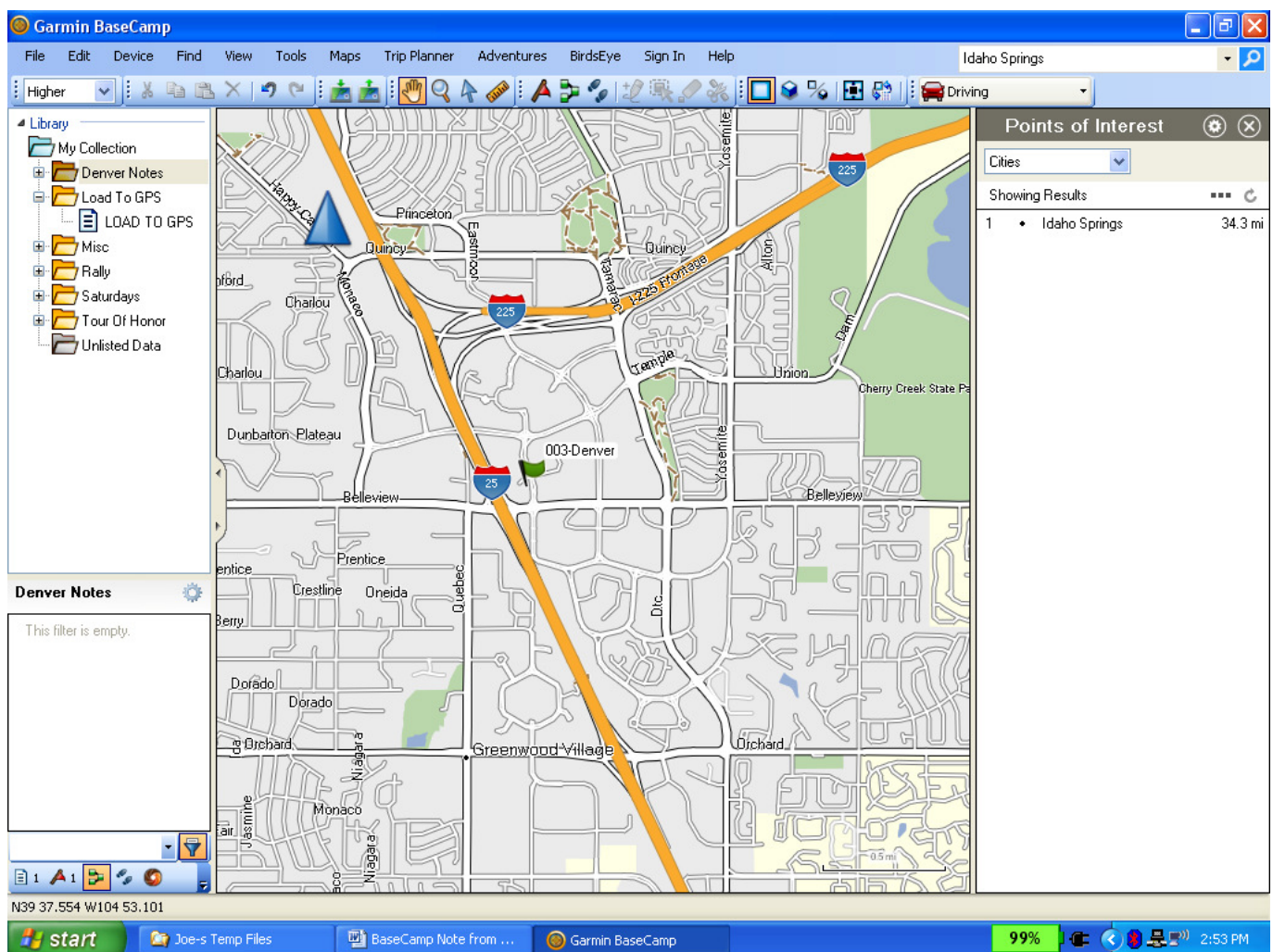
When you click on the Idaho Springs shown in the search results located in the right column, BaseCamp shows you on the map where it is. In that small box that pops up on the map with it, click on the flag and that spot becomes a waypoint. It then shows up in your data box on the lower left column. Right click, select open, and you can edit the properties of the waypoint called Idaho Springs.
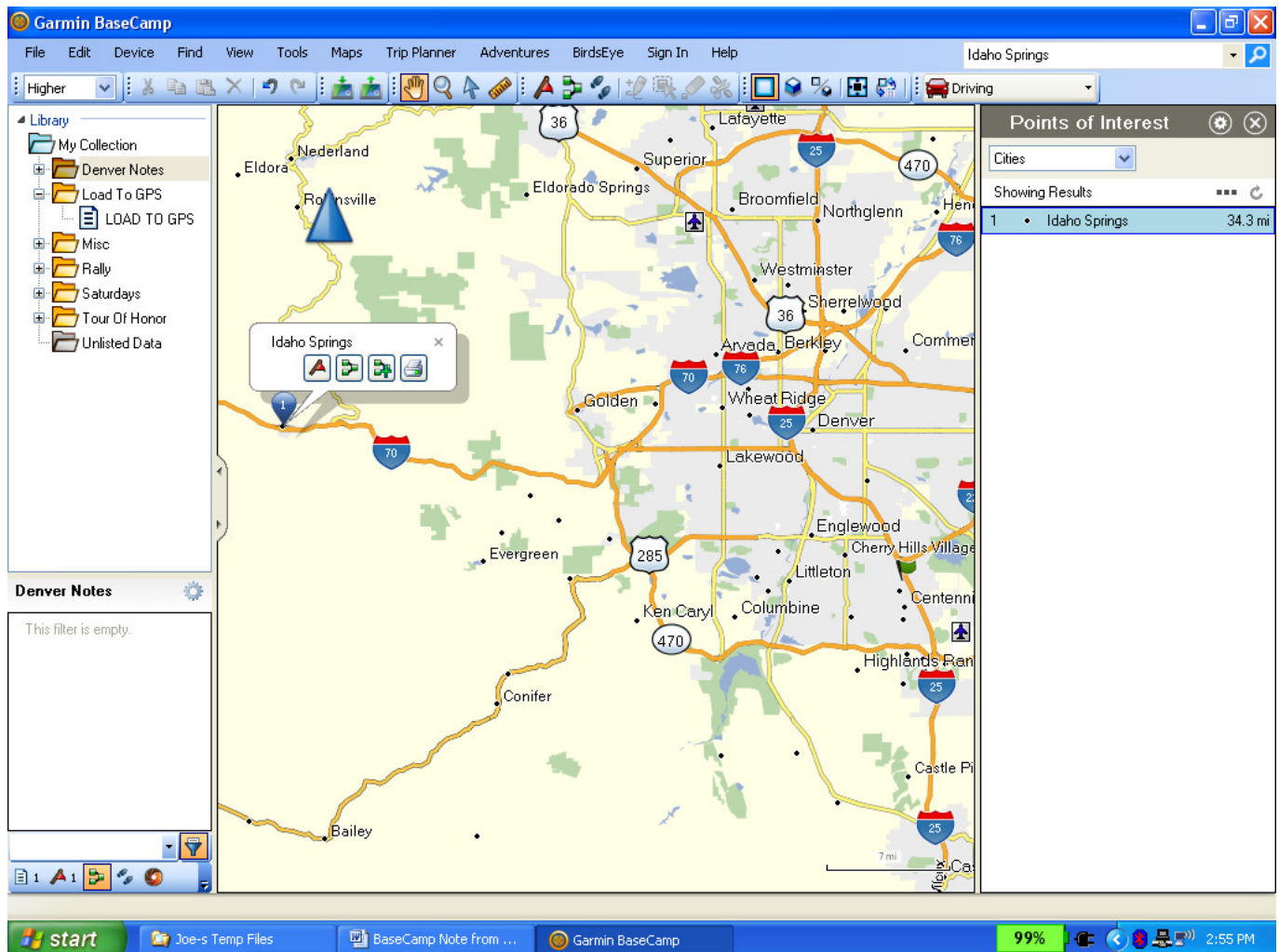
3a. As with any computer program, there are multiple ways to get the same results.
Another way to use the Find option is to first go to the Find tab and click Find Points of
Interest. The right column immediately appears pre-populated. At the top of that column
you'll see two round symbols. The one with the "X" closes the search. The one that looks
like a wheel allows you to narrow your search options.
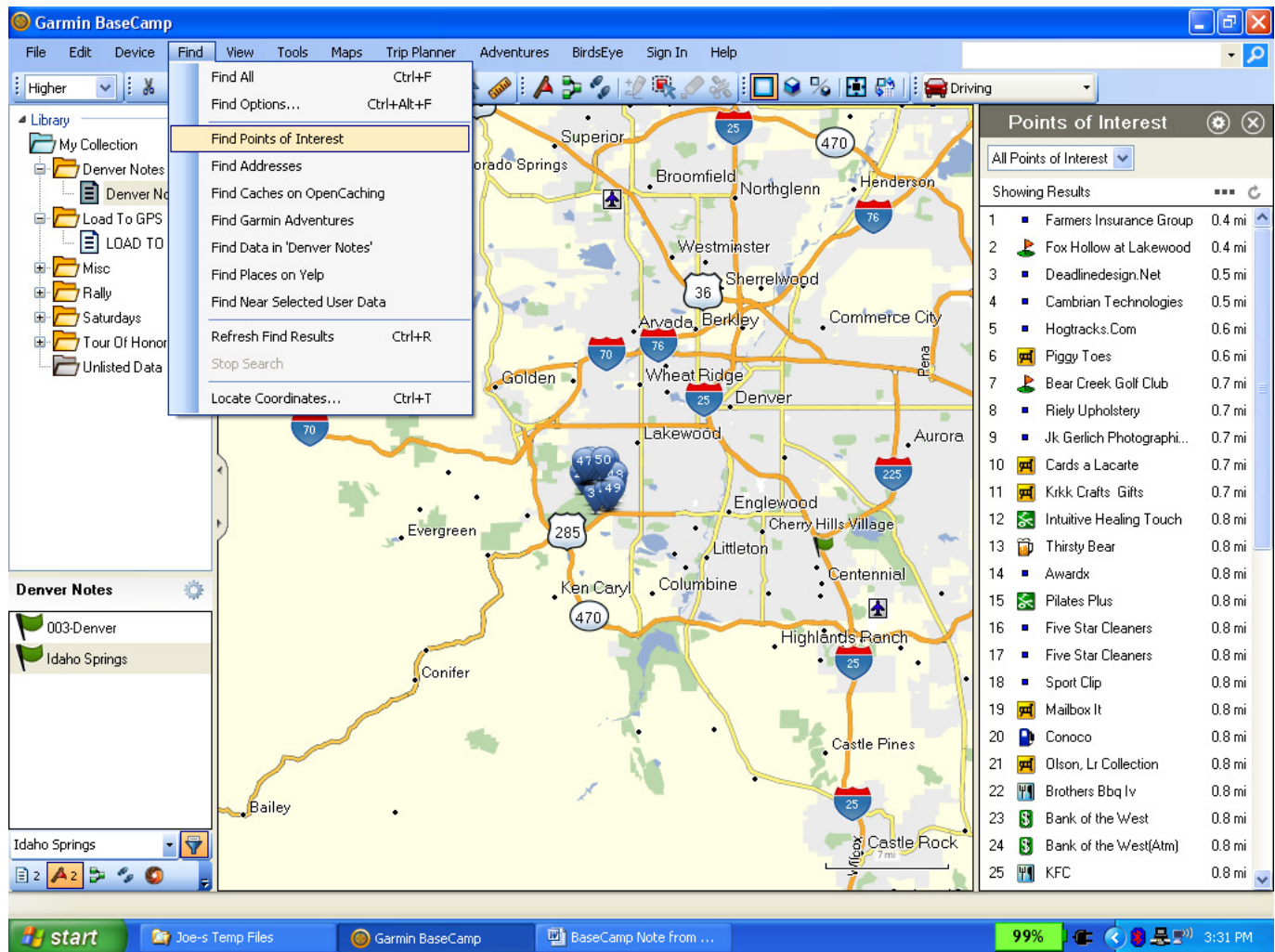
Click on that wheel and the search column changes.

You can now select your type, which in this case is POIs. The drop down box of More Options allows you to choose from another menu. Since we were selecting by cities, we'll continue that way.
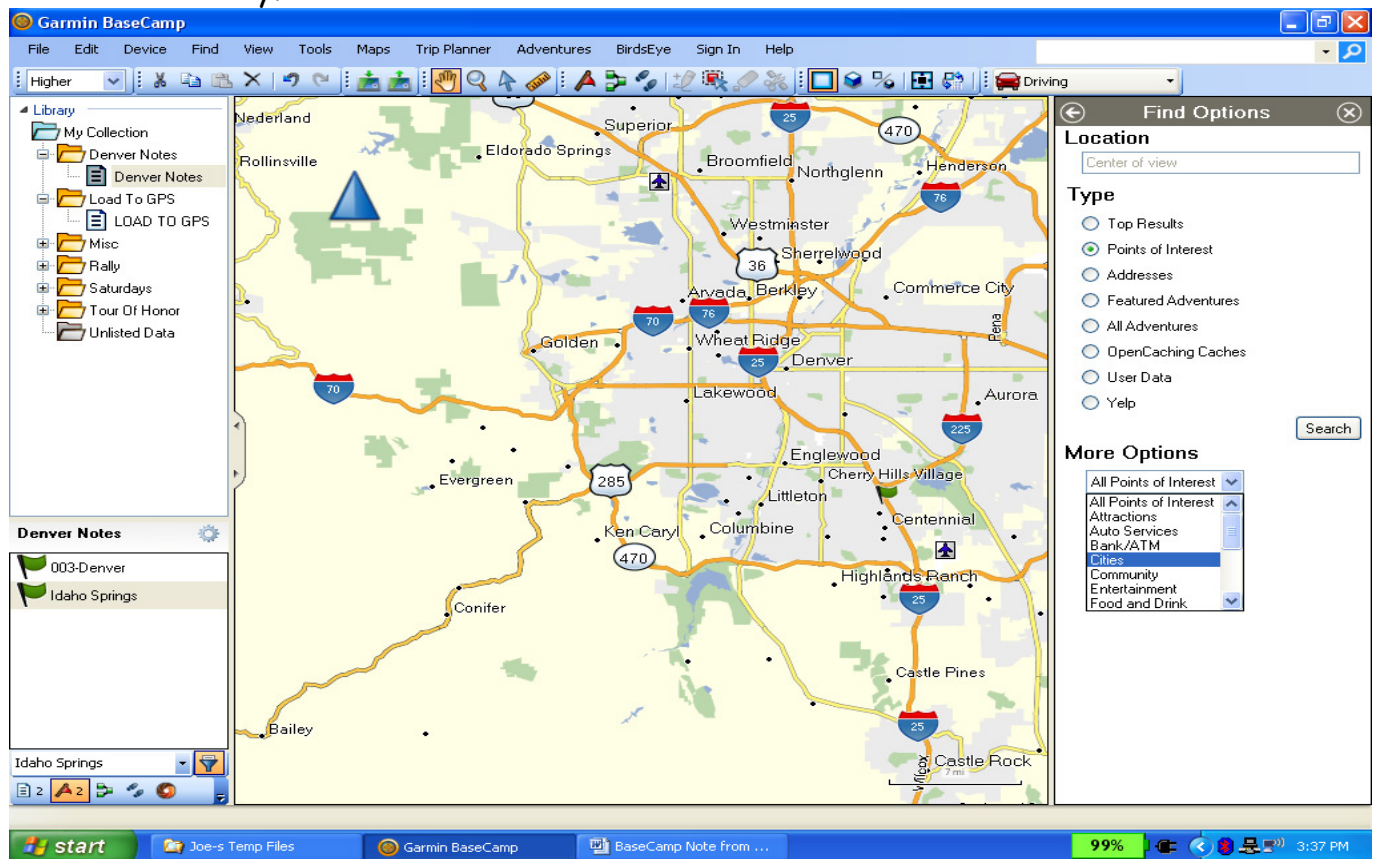
Start typing Idaho Springs into the empty Location. BaseCamp will impatiently throw up a list of place names as you type. Either finish typing or select from the list.
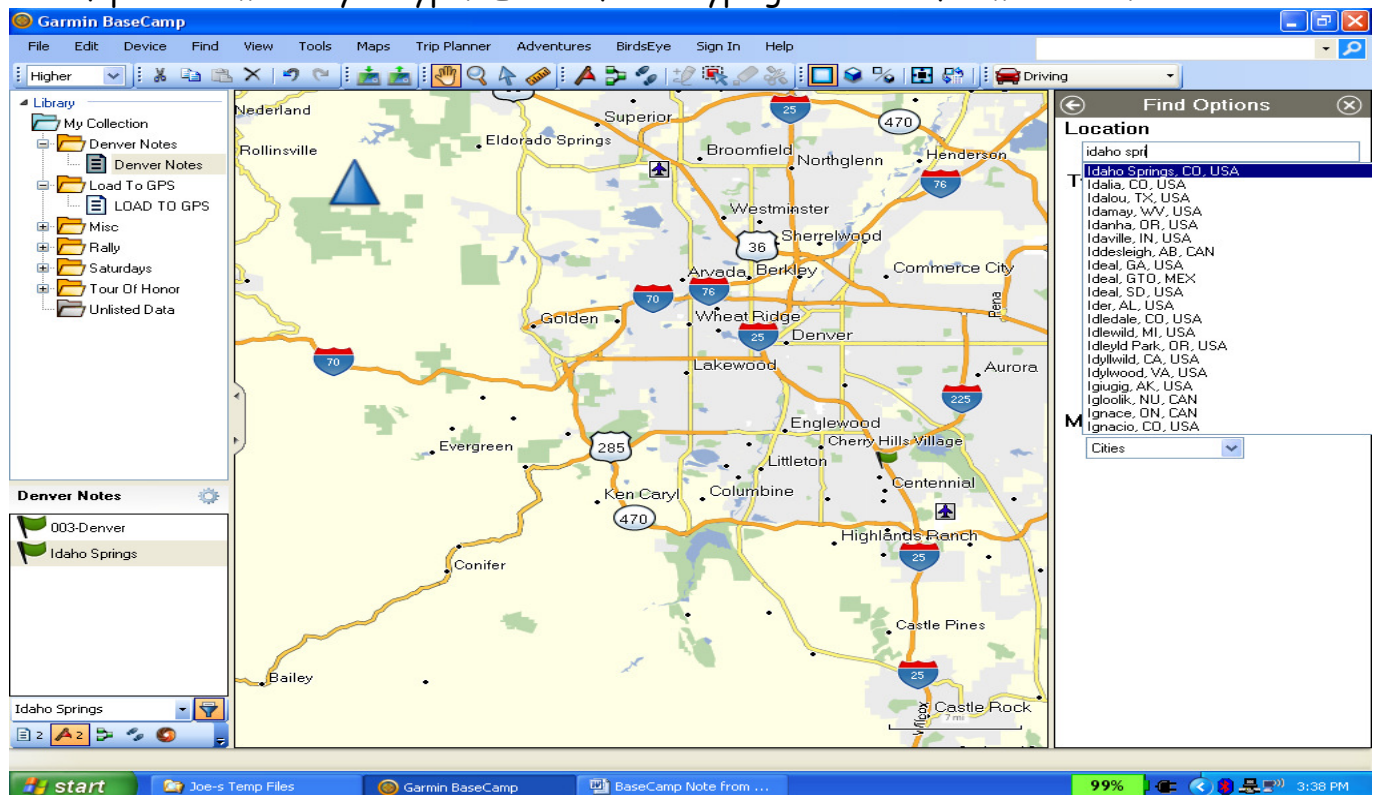
Once you hit the Search button, BaseCamp will provide you a list of places (many of which are not nor do they look like Idaho Springs). But since you typed Idaho Springs into the Location box for Center of View, Idaho Springs appears in the center of the map and is 0 miles from the center of the map per the info in the search column on the right. Right click on the first entry in the search column and you can click on the flag to make it a waypoint.
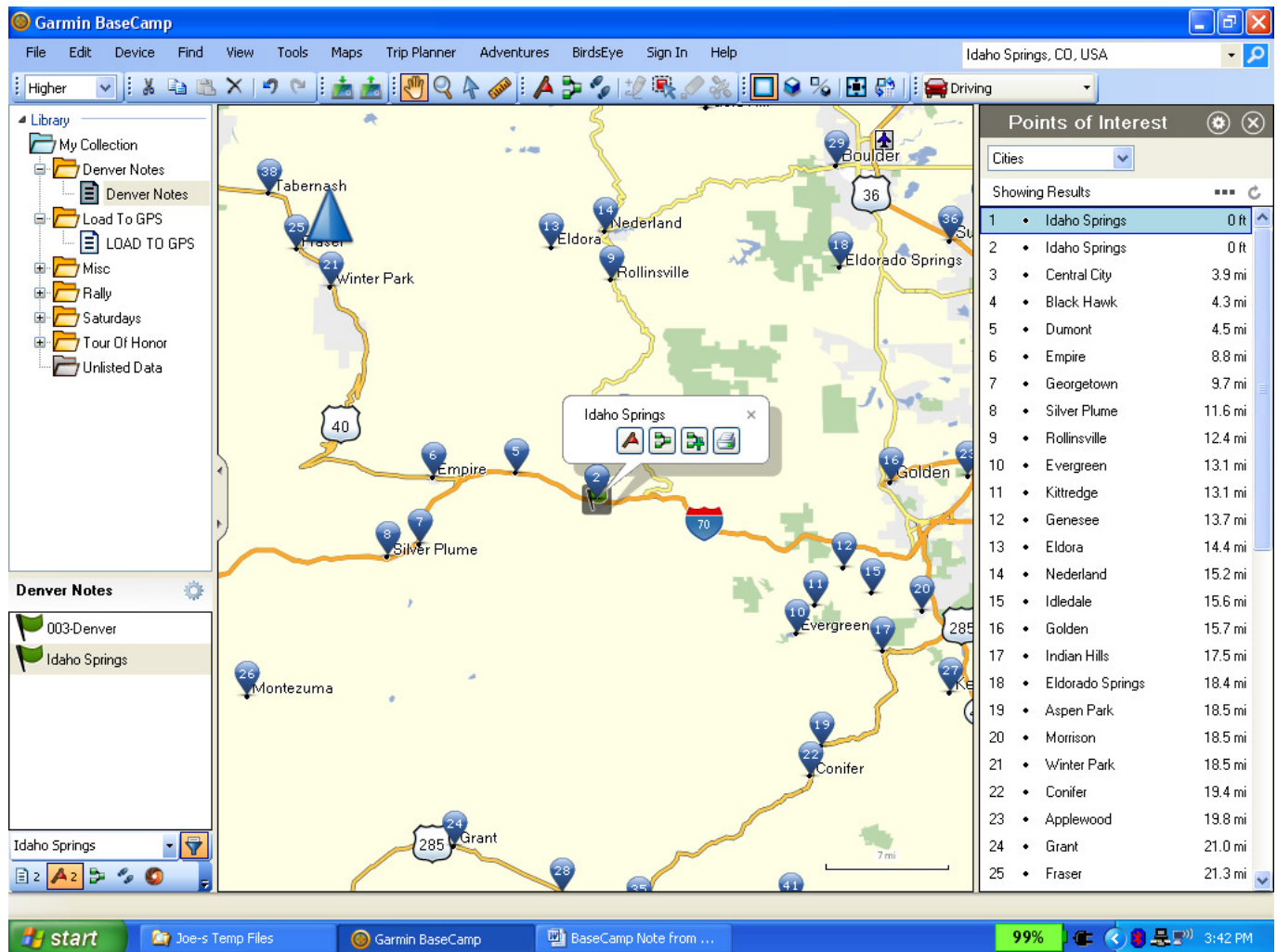
4. You may get a list of waypoints from some one (friend, rally master, etc…) in the form of a gpx or gbd file. When in Windows Explorer and you click on the file with BaseCamp already open but minimized in the background, BaseCamp automatically will generate a map for you.

Creating A Route

OK, the example Maura used was getting from the Marriott hotel to Idaho Springs for lunch with Mike. Create a new list, call it Lunch RTE. We need the Marriott and Idaho Springs in it.

Not being that familiar with Colorado, I can use the Select tool (big arrow icon tool) to select a target search area. Since I know that I have the waypoints in My Collection, I can find them easy enough because since they are inside my created search area, they are highlighted in my list in the data box. Drag and drop them up into that list from the data box.
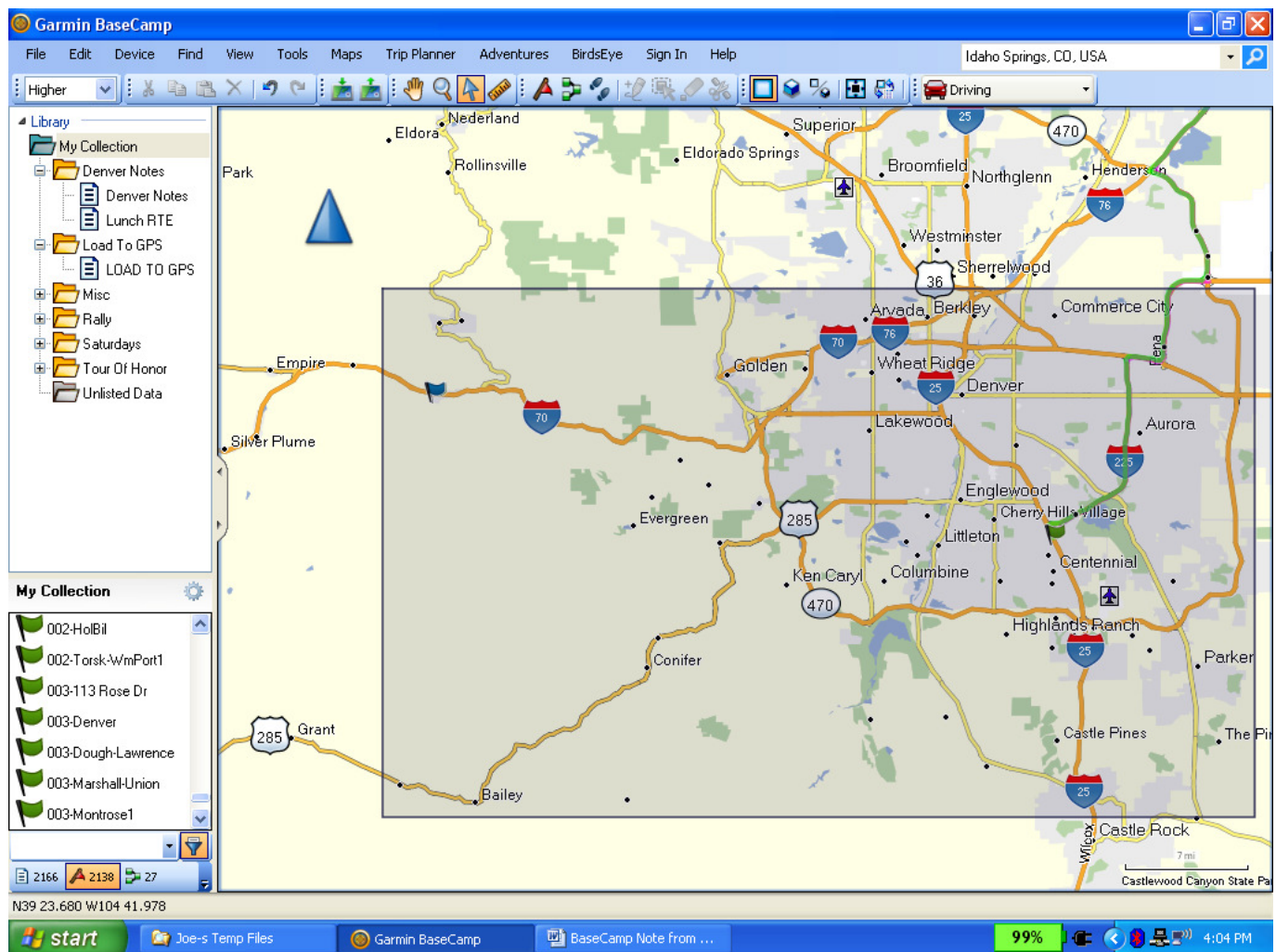
Mike is having lunch at a restaurant, not the center of Idaho Springs. So you'll need to manually set the flag at the appropriate location. Zoom in on Idaho Springs using the mouse wheel or the zoom slider on the upper left corner of the map.
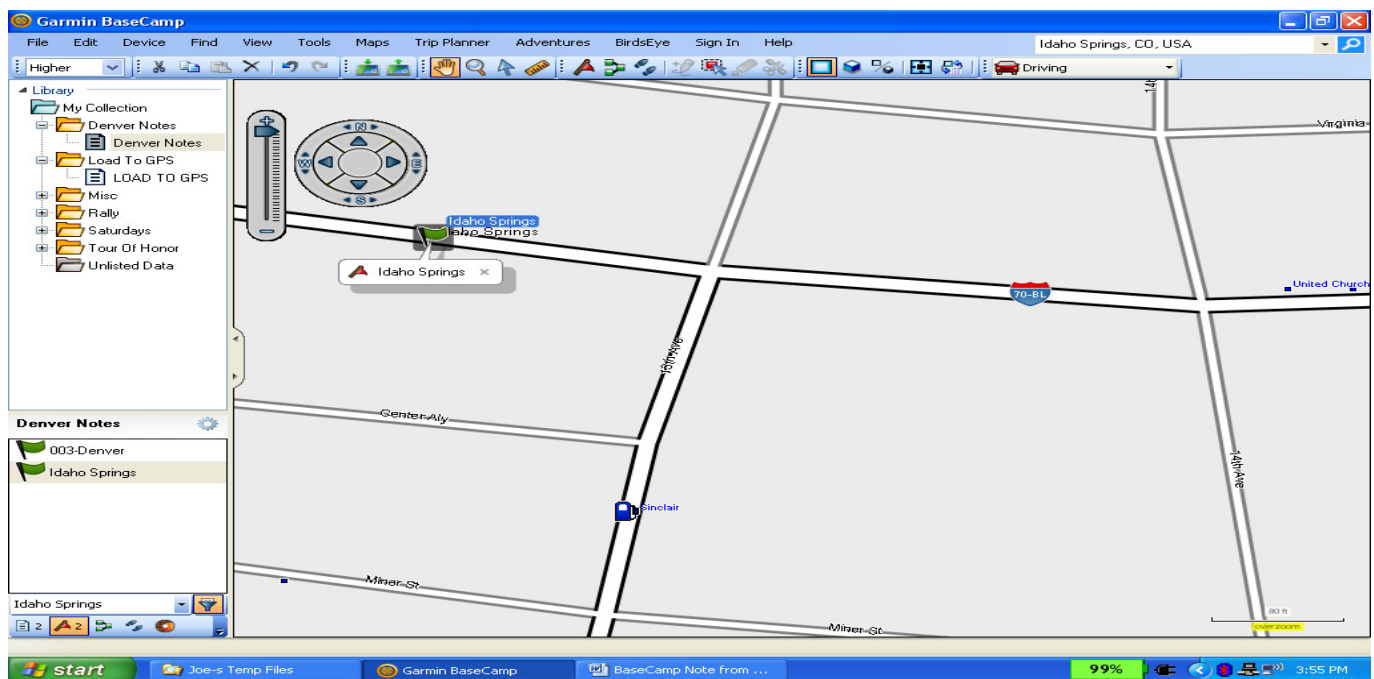
Click on the Move Point icon, click on the Idaho Springs waypoint and drag it to where you want it.
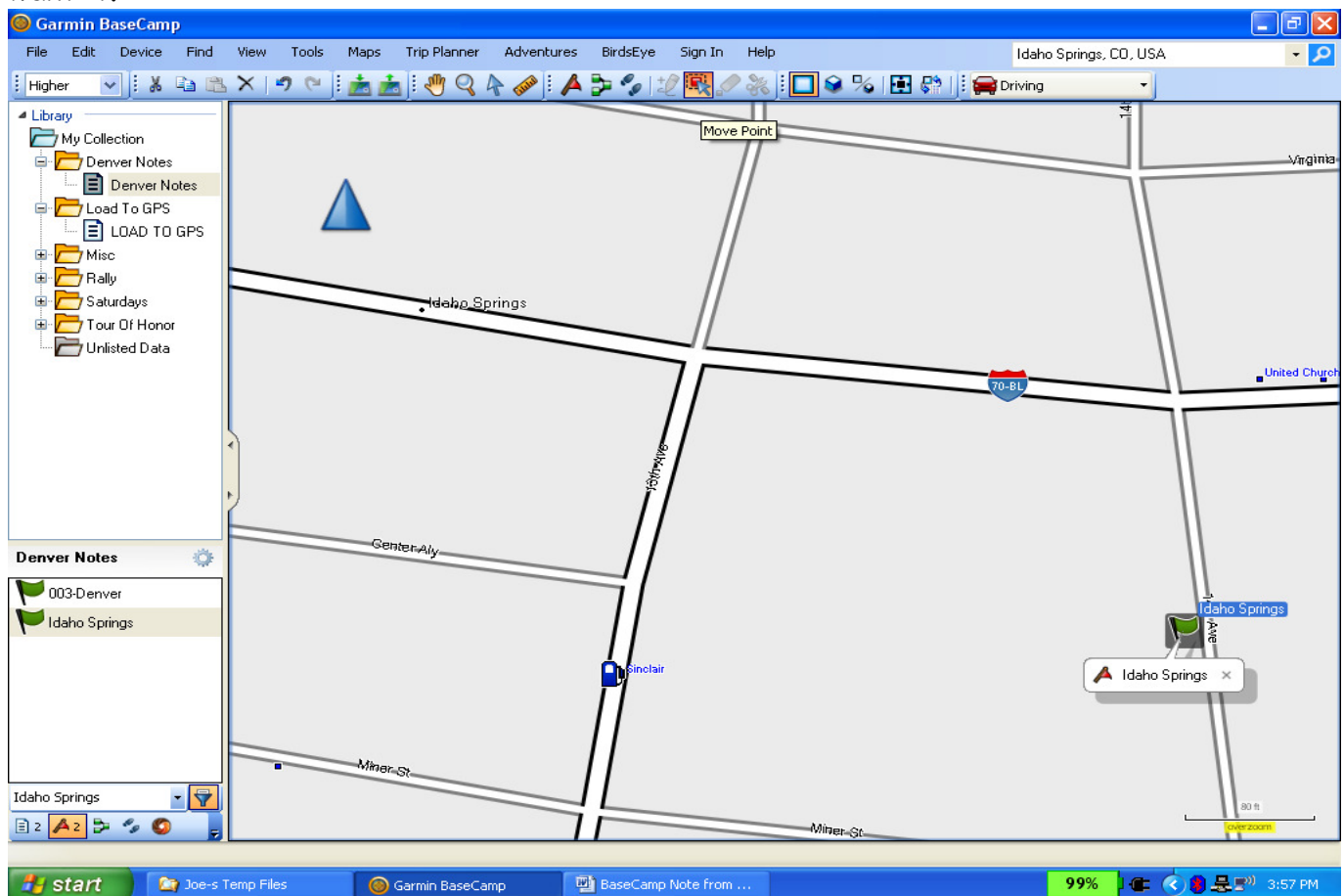
Select the New Route icon (three connected boxes forming a sideways "V"). You can use the pop up box, or you can close that and simply use the crayon to connect the waypoints in the order you desire. Let's use the pop up box first.
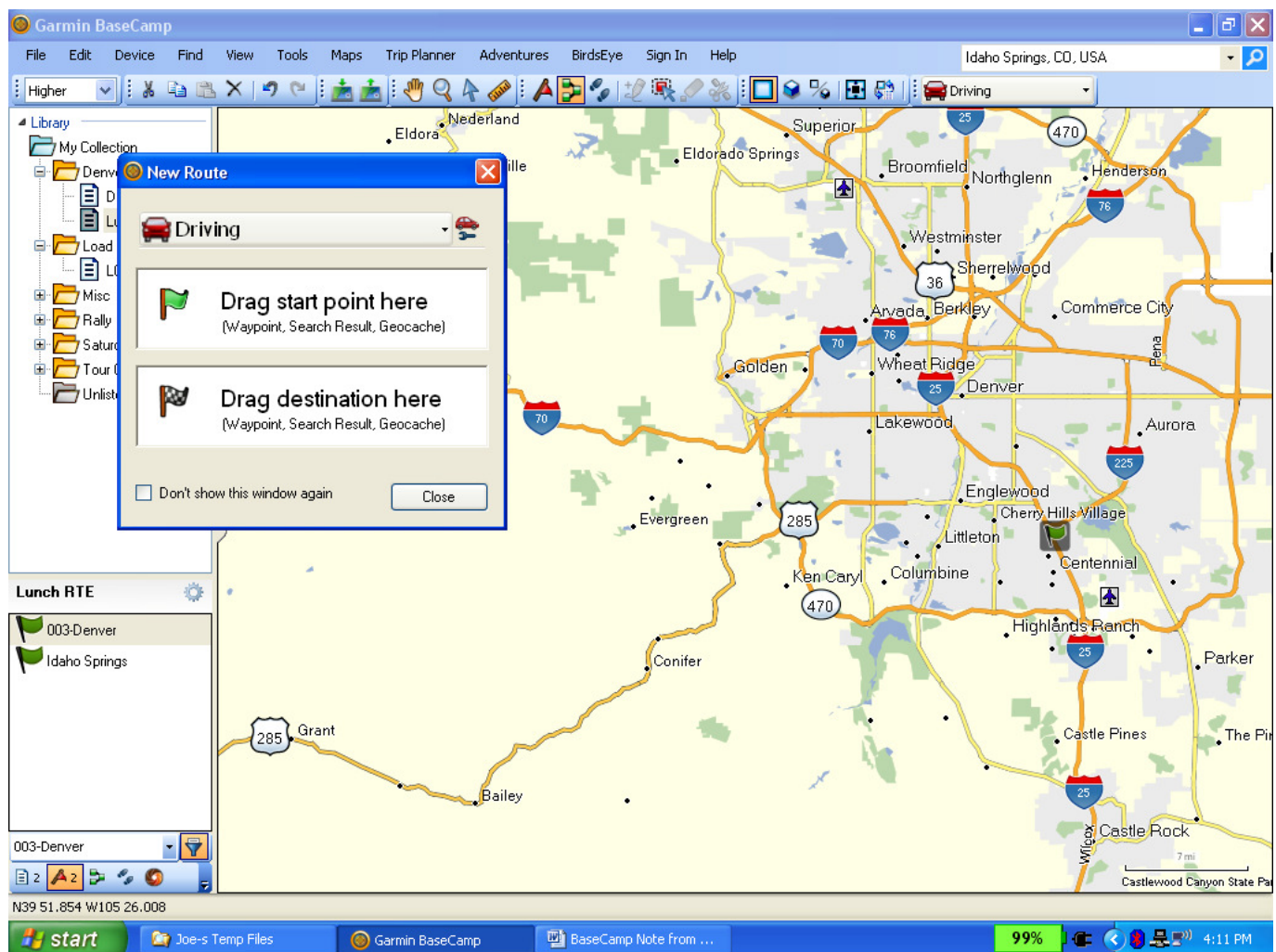
Highlight the Marriott waypoint from the data box and drag it to the upper line of that pop up box since the Marriott is the starting point of the ride. Drag the Idaho Springs waypoint from the data box to the lower line in the pop up box since Idaho Springs is the destination.

Immediately a route properties box will open. Lots to do here.
a. Set your arrival time. You need to be there at noon to be on time for lunch. Double click on Idaho Springs inside the route properties box. Click on arrival time. Pick the date. Enter the time. Click OK. Click Recalculate in the route properties box. BaseCamp now tells you that you need to leave the Marriott at 11:16am to be on time for lunch.
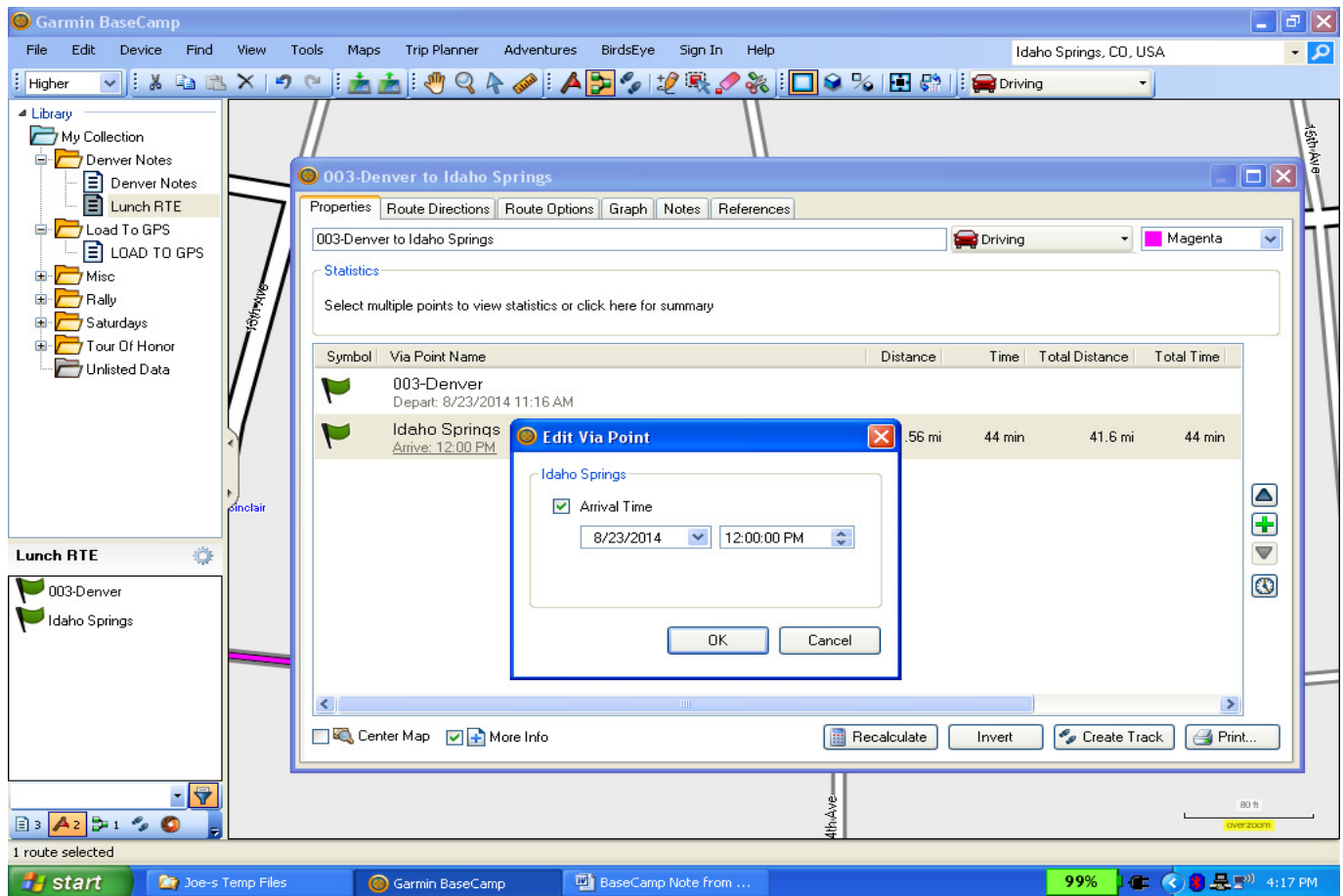
b. Name your route. BaseCamp names the route for you. The name is in the box on the first line of the properties tab. Change it by highlighting the default name and typing in your preferred name.
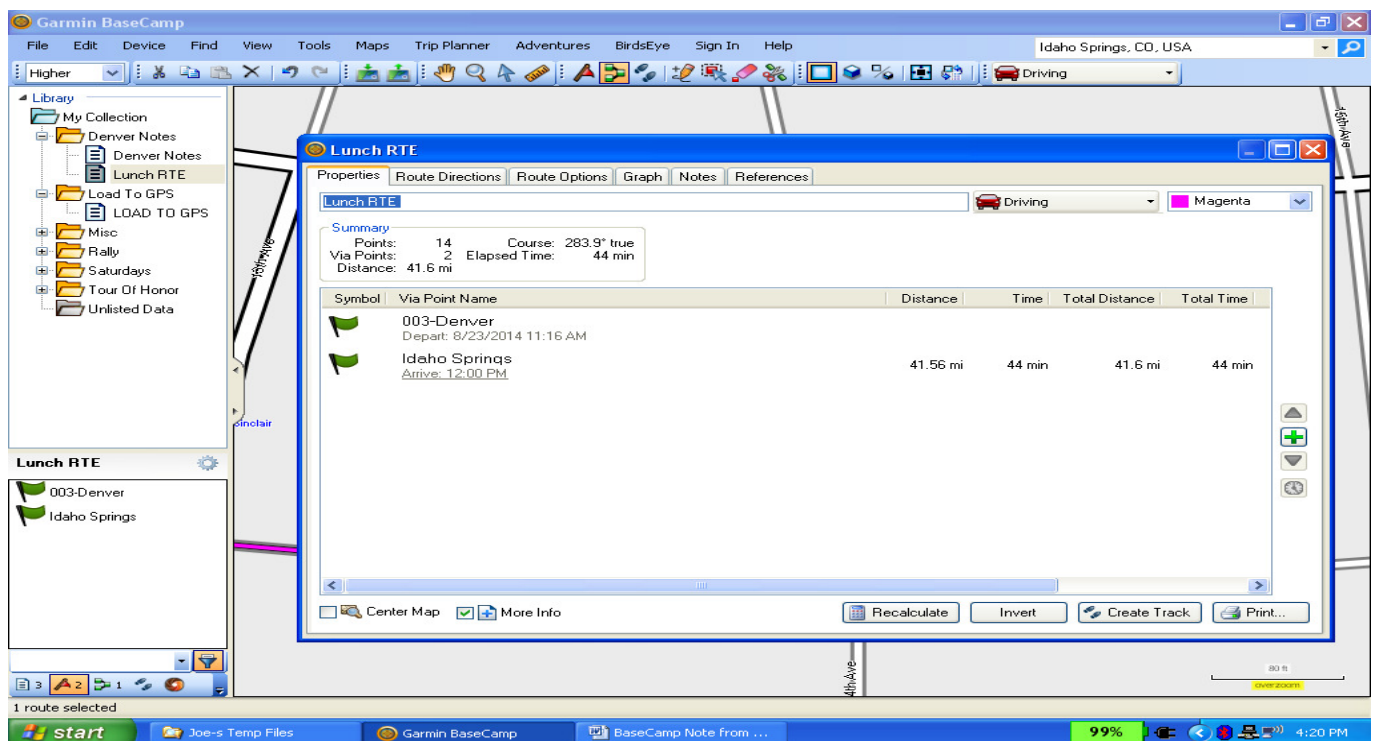
c. Select/change/edit the mode of transportation. On that first line of the Properties tab, just to the right of the route name is Activity Profile used to calculate the route. My default is Driving. Use the drop down arrow to see what else is available. Select any, click on Recalculate and note how the times might change.
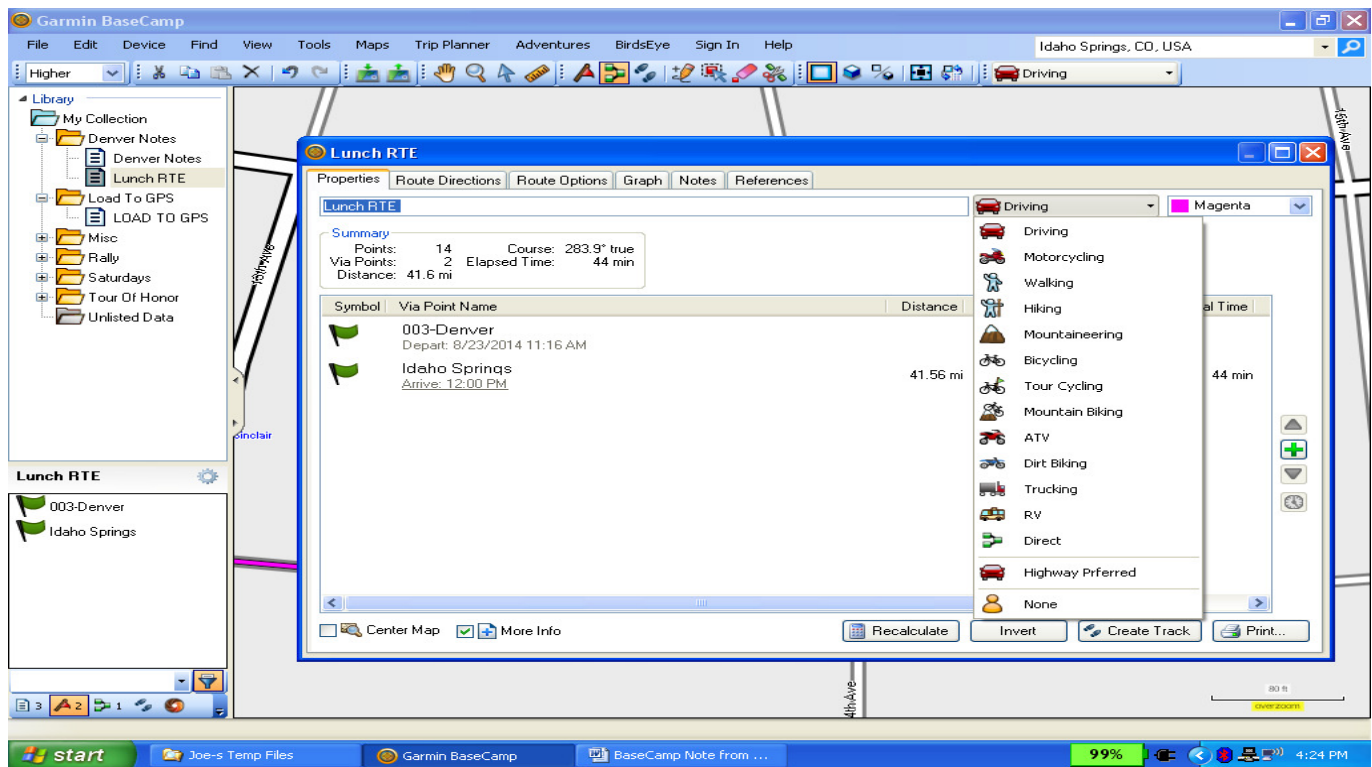
d. Select the route color. On the far right of that top line is the route color box. Default is Magenta. Use the drop down box to select which you prefer.
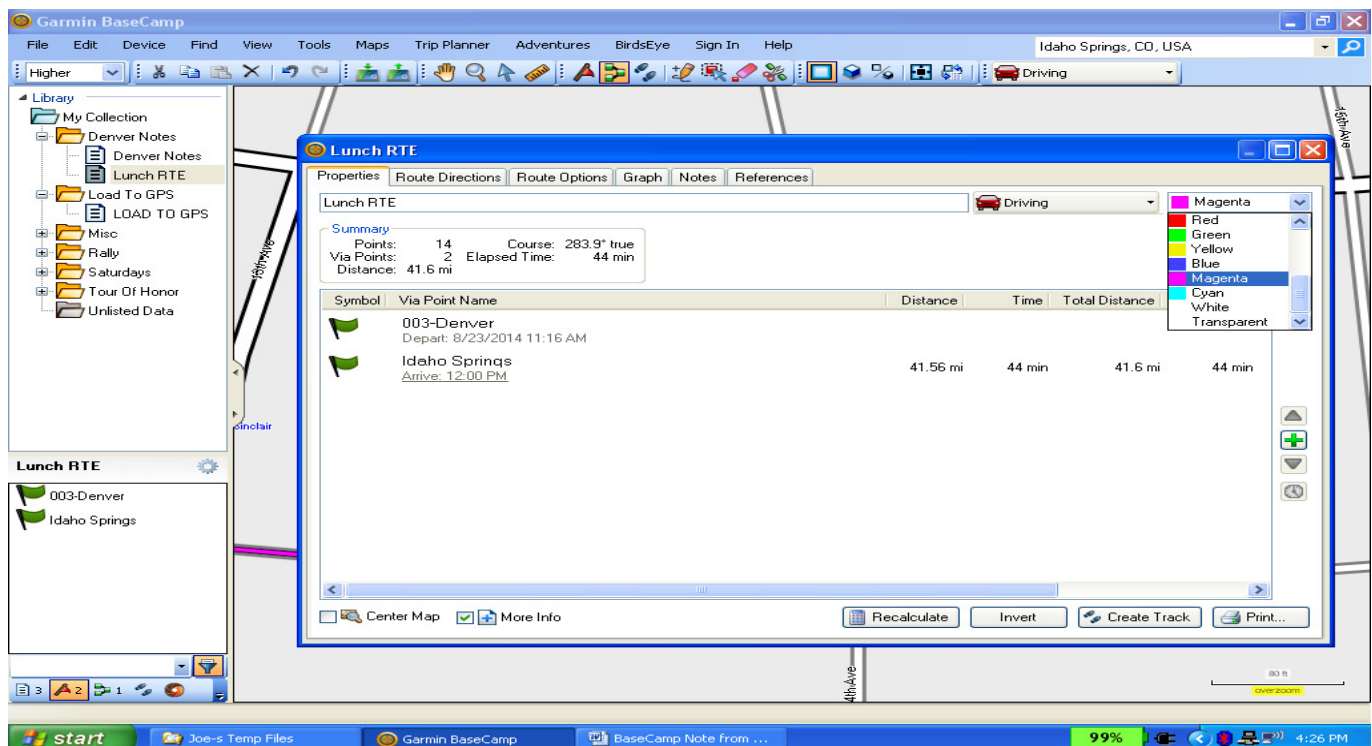
e. Turn by turn direction. Click on the Route Direction tab. Look them over.
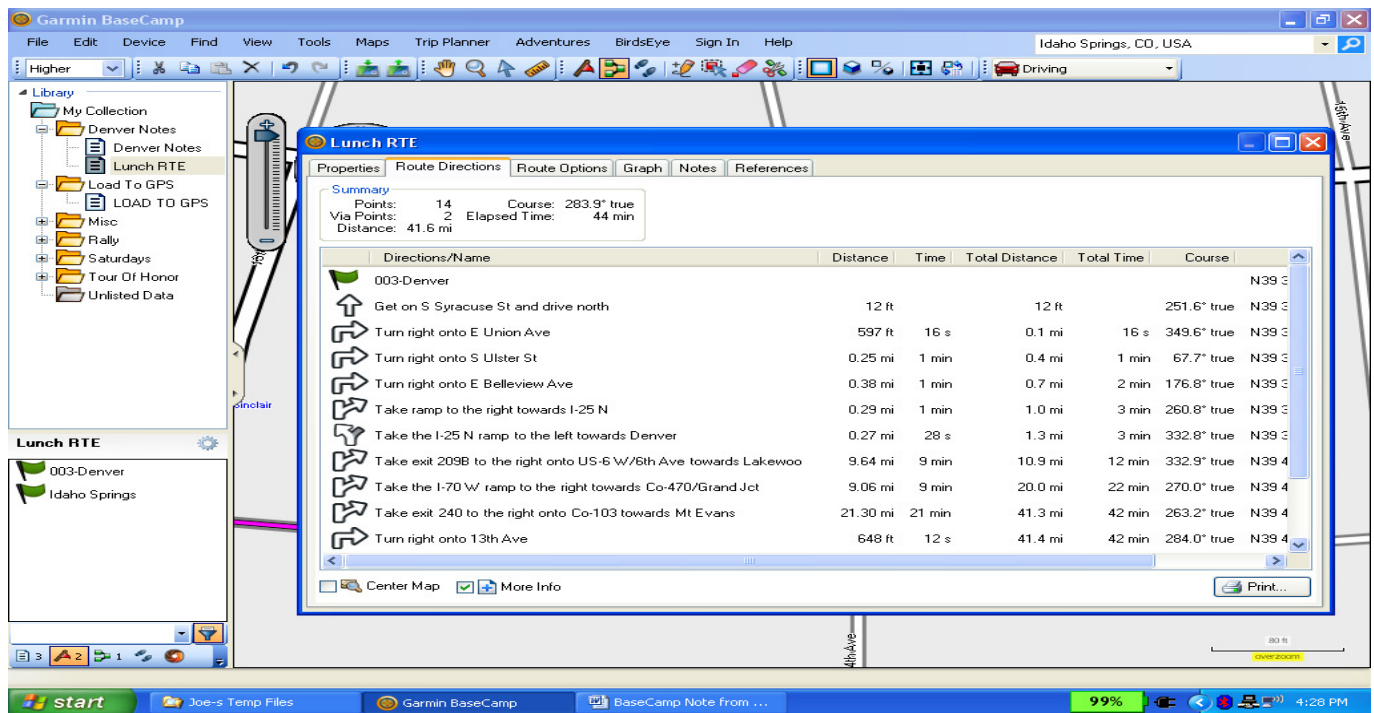
f. Edit your mode of transportation options and preferences. Click the Route Options tab
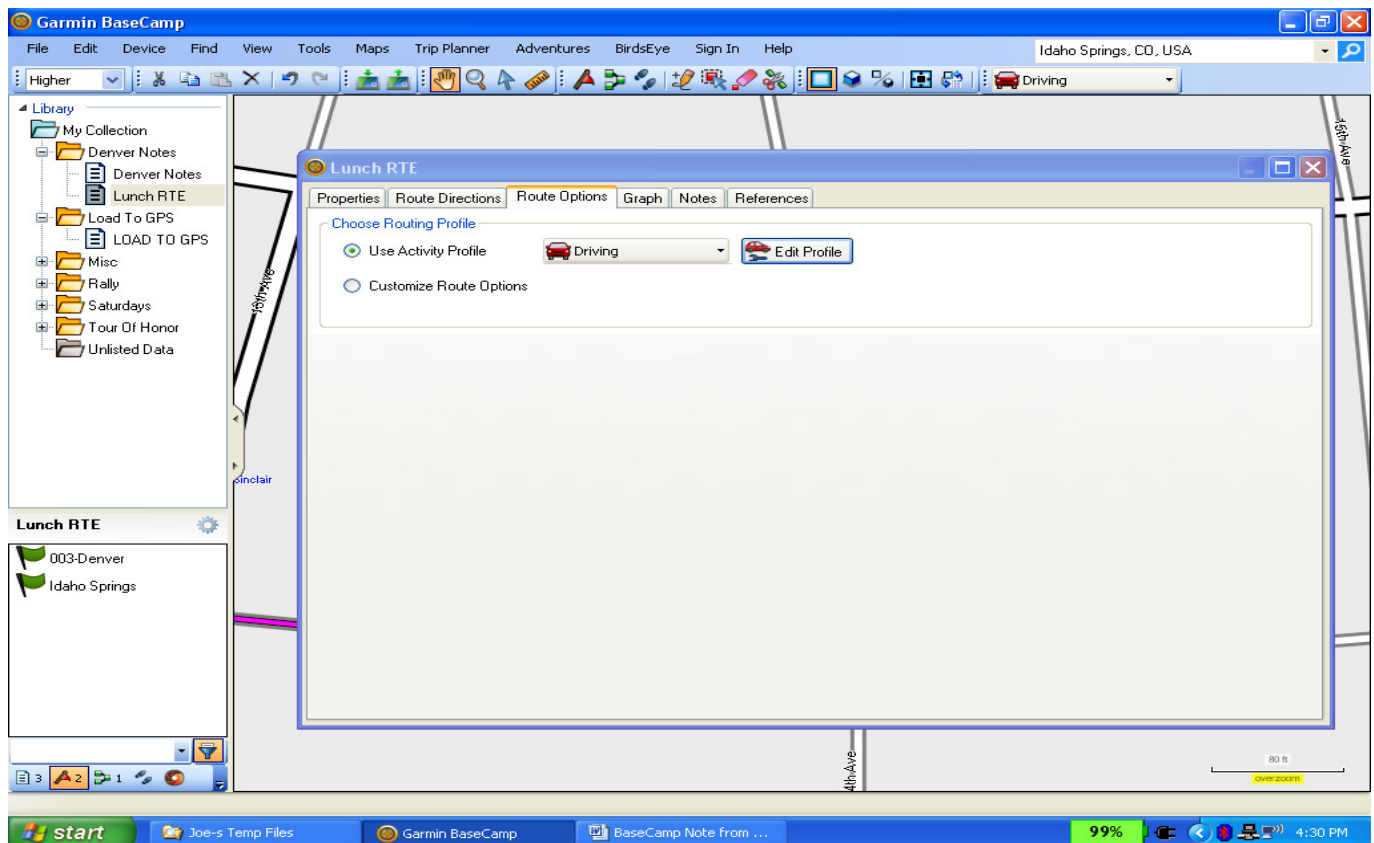
Then click on the Edit Profile button. Explore each of the five options in the left column of that box. Select the options you desire from the various drop down lists – miles or metric; lat/long format preference; appearance of the map; street selection preferences; speed by street type; language, etc…
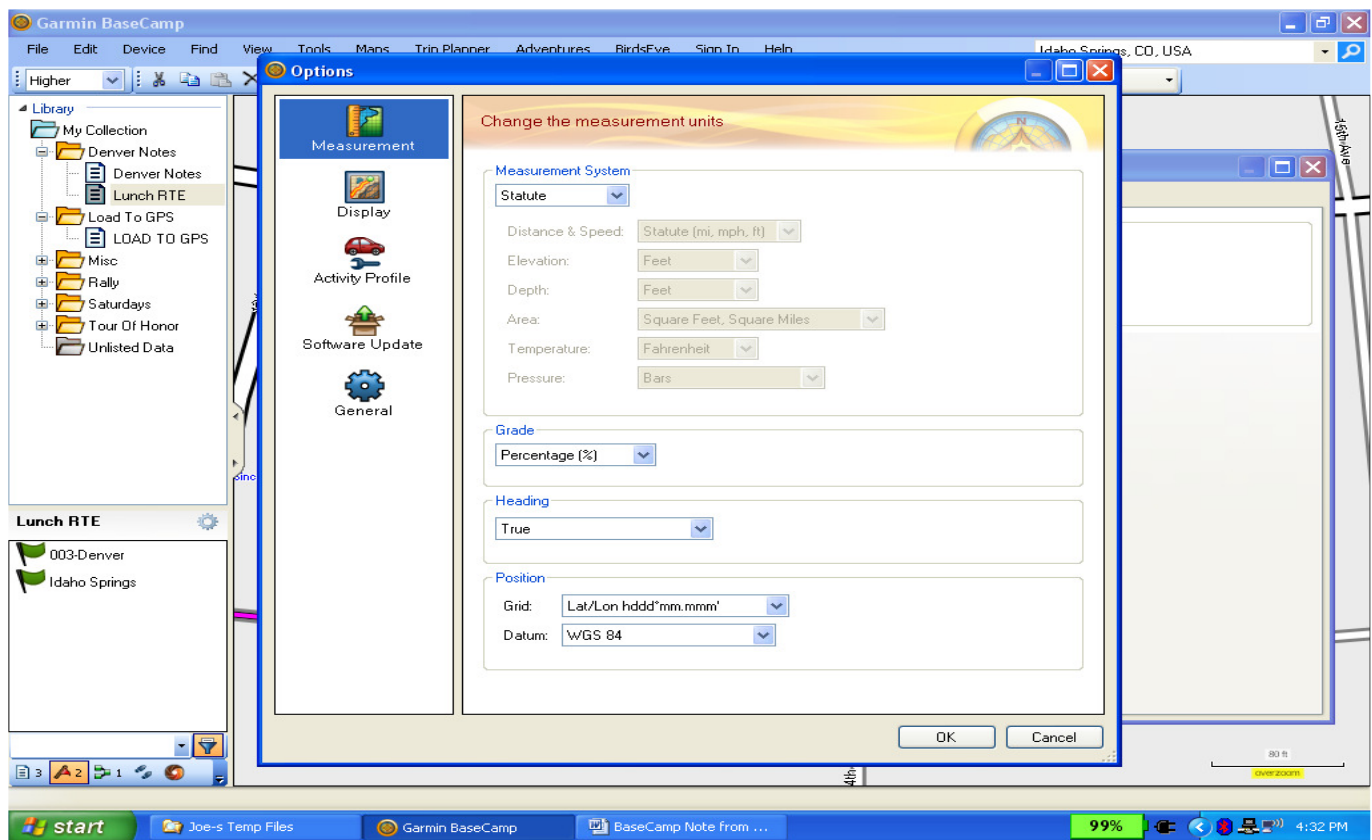
g. Notes. Add whatever reference notes may be helpful now or in the future.
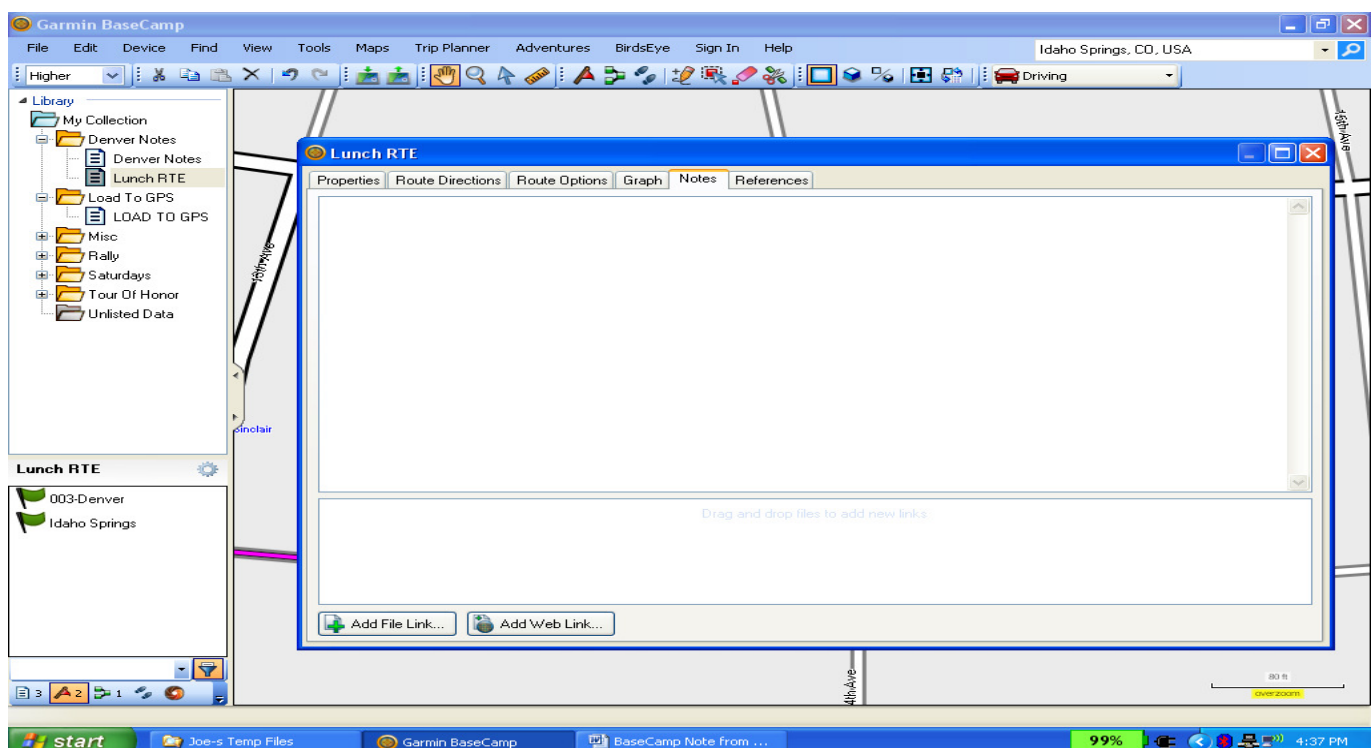
The Return Trip

Once you get through lunch you need to get back for a 3:00pm session at the Meet. In your data box, highlight the route, right click and Open. Using the green "plus" sign on the right, click it and select the Marriott waypoint from the pop up box and click insert at the bottom of that pop up box.
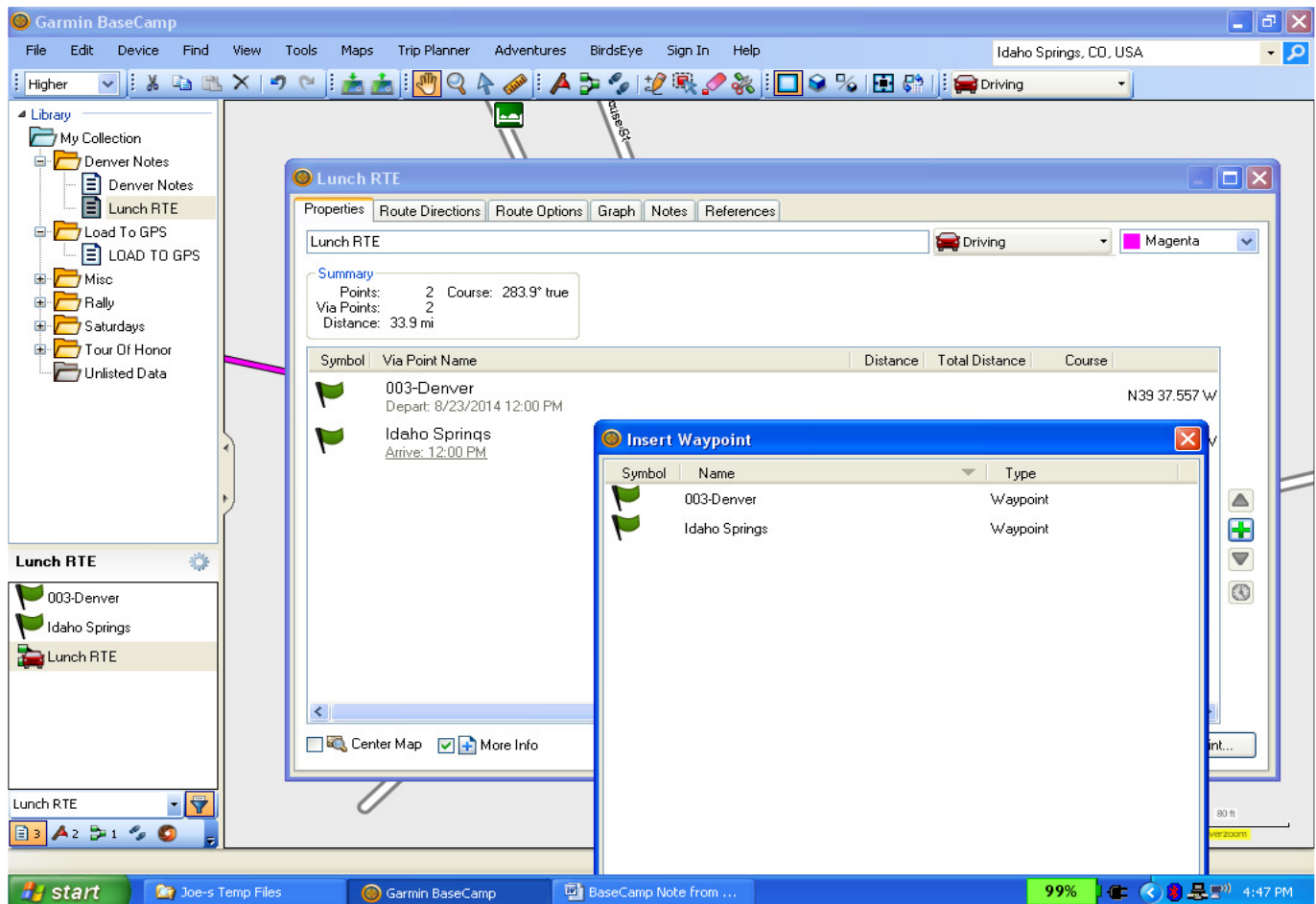
Now adjust your times. Double click on Idaho Springs and add a one hour lay over for lunch. Double click the Marriott ending location and set the arrival time for 3pm. Click Recalculate. You can now plan to leave at 11:16am to arrive on time for lunch. You can plan to stay for an hour. BaseCamp assumes you leave at the end of lunch, so if you leave at 1pm you'll arrive back at the Marriott at 1:43p. But it also notes your arrival time that you set is 3pm. Doing the easy math, you have roughly 90 minutes extra. So, let's see where you can ride to in that time so as to expand your return trip from lunch to the Marriott.

Remember, a route can only be shown in one color. If you want the return route in a different color so you can easily see differences, simply make the return trip to the Marriott its own route and edit its color. For this example I did not do that, just FYI.
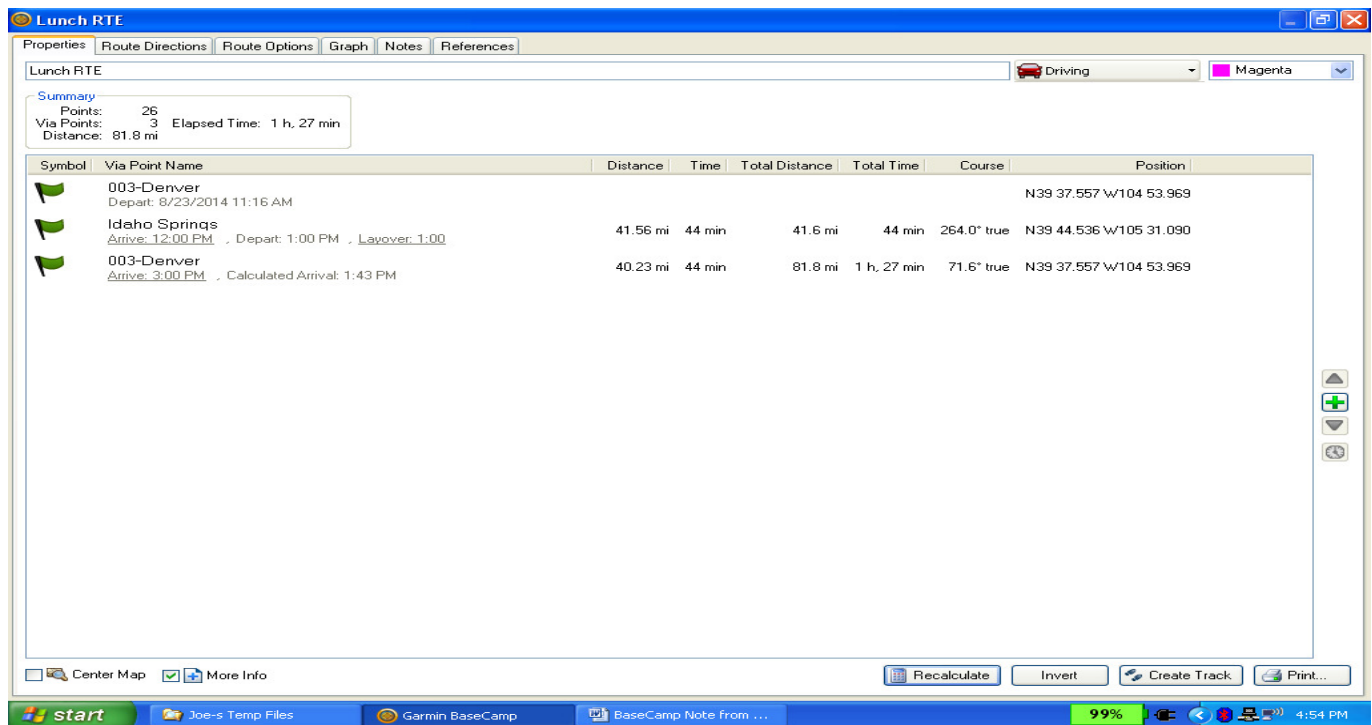
Use the Select tool to cover the general Denver area. Some one suggested Golden, CO. Having no idea where it is, use the Select tool to select a target geographic area. Use the Find tab, select Find POIs, select Cities under More Options and type Golden into the Location box so that your map will center on Golden.
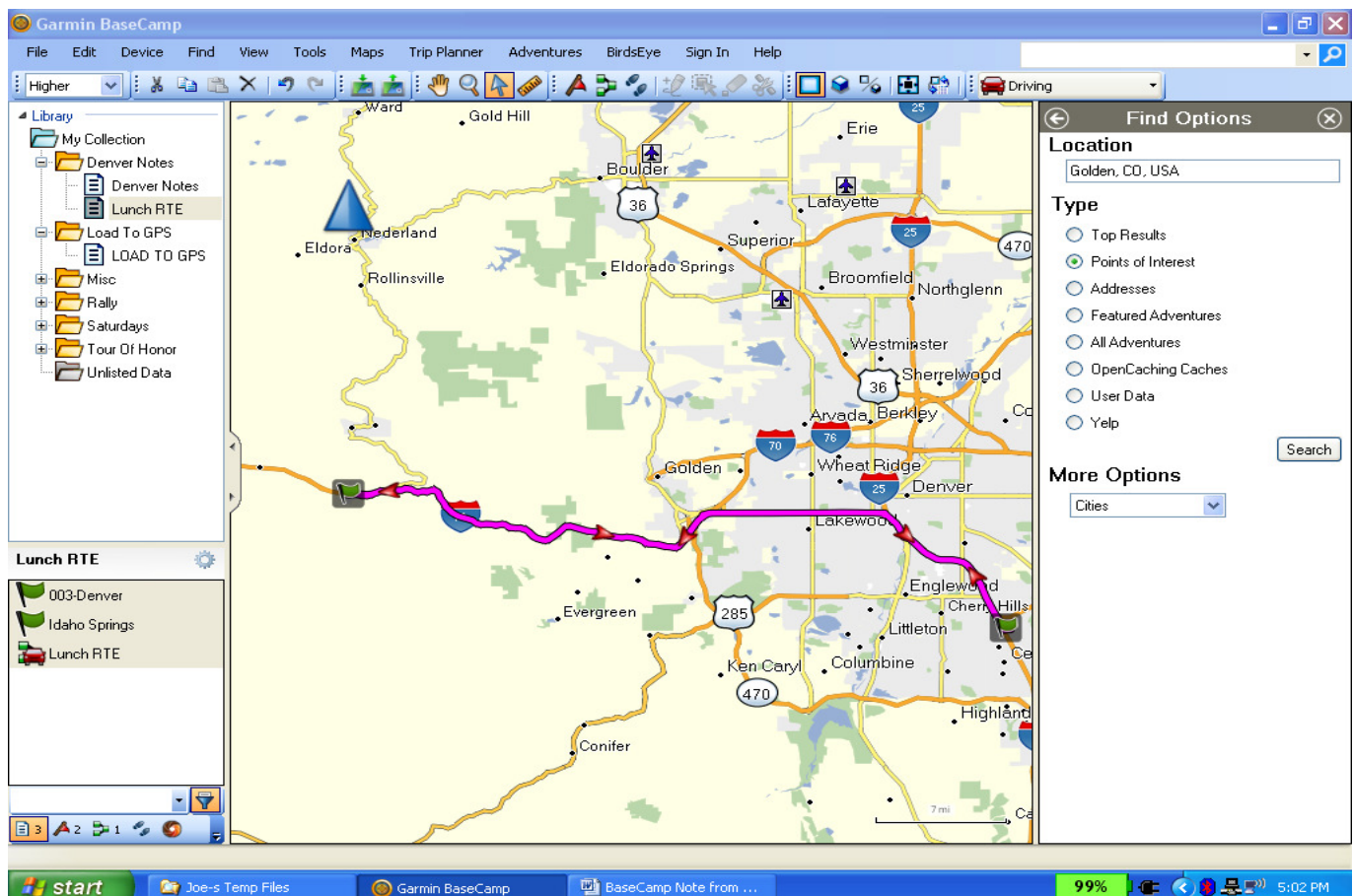
Hit Search, select Golden, CO from the top of the list and click on the waypoint flag.
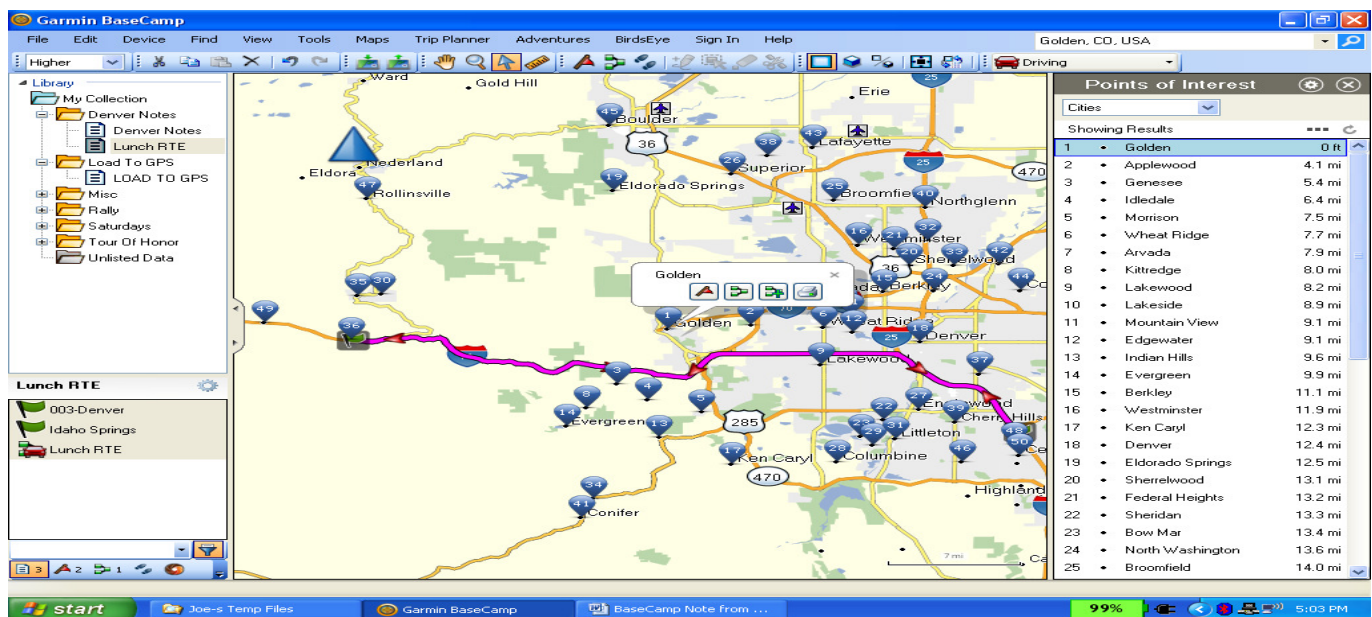
Double click on the Lunch RTE route located in the data box to open the route properties. Use the green "plus" sign and select Golden. Click Insert Waypoint. Now to move Golden into the route to be after Idaho Spring but before the Marriott, use the up and down arrows on the right side of the route properties box, over by the green "plus" sign. Place Golden in its appropriate position in the route, then click on recalculate. BaseCamp automatically calculates that if you leave Idaho Springs at 1pm you arrive at Golden by 1:30pm. Your need to be in the Marriott at 3pm still holds so BaseCamp tells you that you need to leave Golden by 2:30pm.
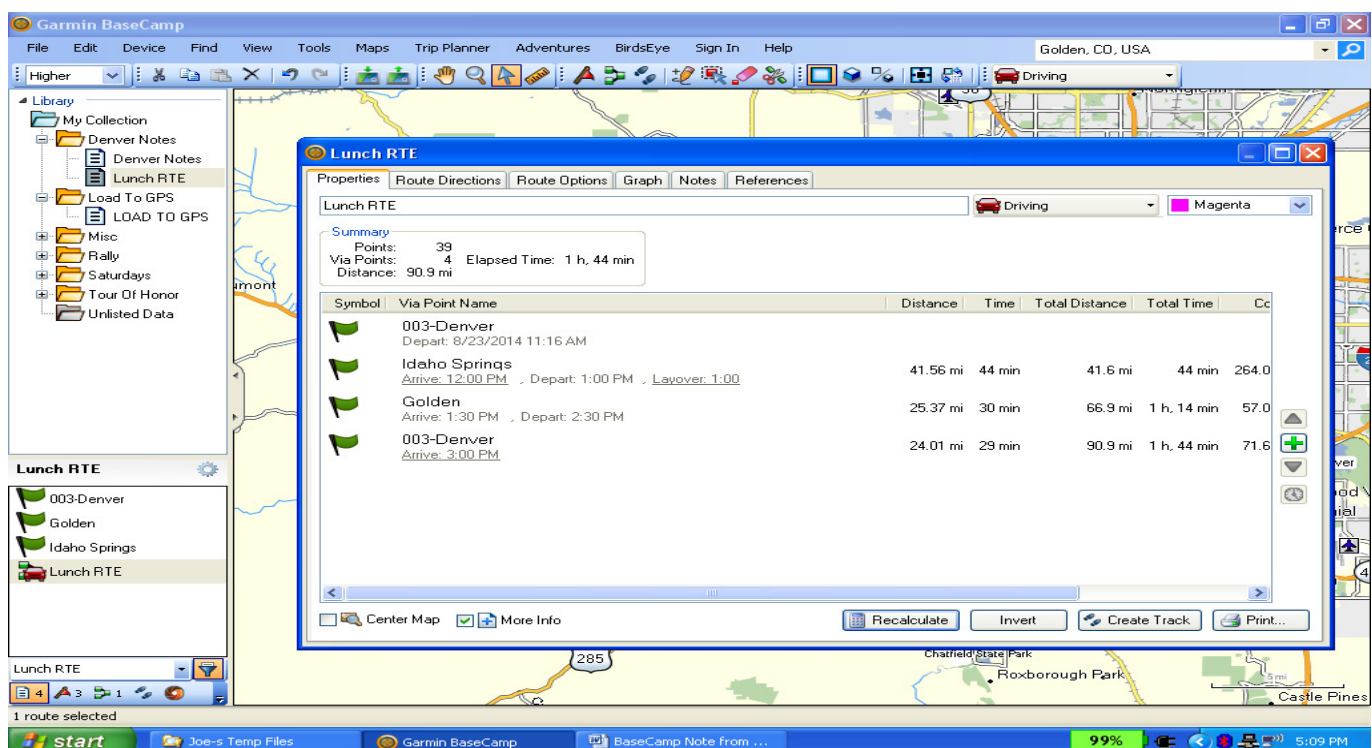
By selecting activity profiles other than Driving, your times may change. BaseCamp does provide a Motorcycling option and that will alter your route. You may want to look at the default options inside the Motorcycling profile. (Select the Route Options tab when the route properties box is open, click on the down arrow to select Motorcycling, then click Edit Profile). Using Motorcycling rather than Driving will result in different roads selected by BaseCamp.

If your side trip on the way back to the Marriott would get you to the Marriott later than you need to be there (we designated 3pm) then BaseCamp will alert you. Let's say we wanted to do a tourist thing in Golden that takes 2 hours. Open the route properties box and double click on Golden, then select a layover time of 2 hours. When you click on Recalculate, BaseCamp tells you that your arrival time at the Marriott is now 4:59pm plus it highlights your desired arrival time of 3:00pm in HUGE RED LETTERS. You need to adjust your route accordingly.

<u>Tracks</u>

At this point Maura talked about downloading tracks from your GPS. Up to this time, I have not experimented with tracks, so this was all new to me. But her presentation was pretty cool looking at the time v. speed graphs that tracks create. So she shared with me an actual track that she used during her presentation. It was kindly shared by Steve Bracken, so he gets credit here – as does his comment to Maura: " This is the winning ride from my first Rally ... The 2011 Autumn Equinox Rally."

As GPS units vary, I supposed that so does the track saving function on each. So, you'll have to experiment with your device. Your GPS should save your traveled path as a Track. You can then transfer that track to BaseCamp using the 'receive from device' option when you plug your GPS into your computer.

Once tracks, routes, waypoints, etc… are transferred from your device to BaseCamp, you can easily find them by first clicking on the global My Collection (since everything is stored there). Then go to the very bottom of the left column (that blue line at the bottom) and highlight the appropriate icon. See everything with 'Show all user data'. See only the saved tracks with 'Show tacks'.

To share a track that you have in BaseCamp with another user, highlight it, go up to the very top of the computer screen and click on File, then Export, then Export track. This makes a .gpx file that can be share with others. They can open it in BaseCamp (since it is a .gpx file) and examine it in detail. If their GPS allows them to follow tracks, they can transfer the track from BaseCamp to their GPS using the 'Send to device' option.

So, let's look at Steve's track that Maura used as her example at the Denver Meet…..

When I opened the .gpx file that Maura emailed to me, here is what I saw
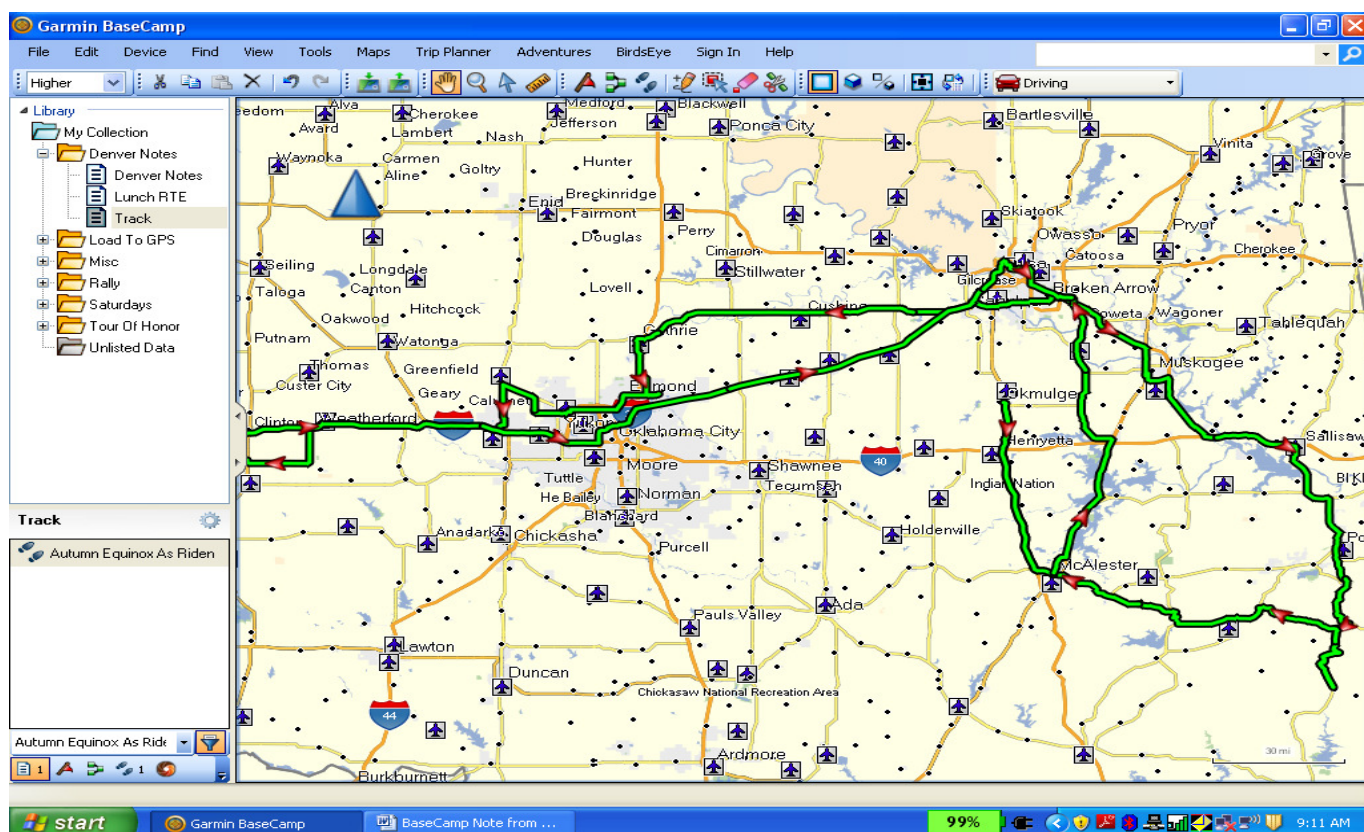
Right click on the highlighted track name in the left column. Select and click Open.
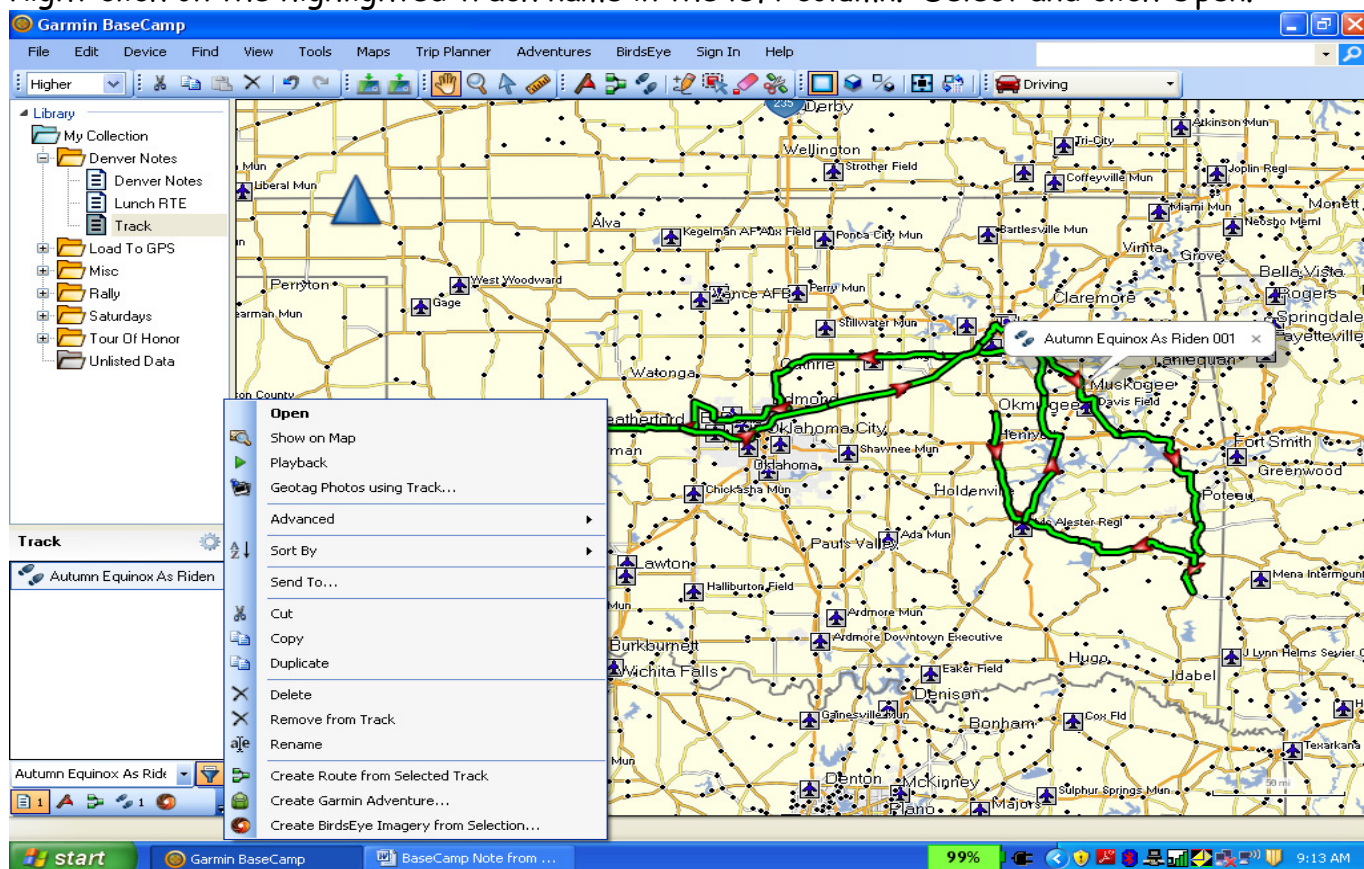
You will see the properties box open up. The first screen will be the directions. Note that these look similar to Route turn by turn directions at first glance, but they are not quite the same. Get familiar with what is there.
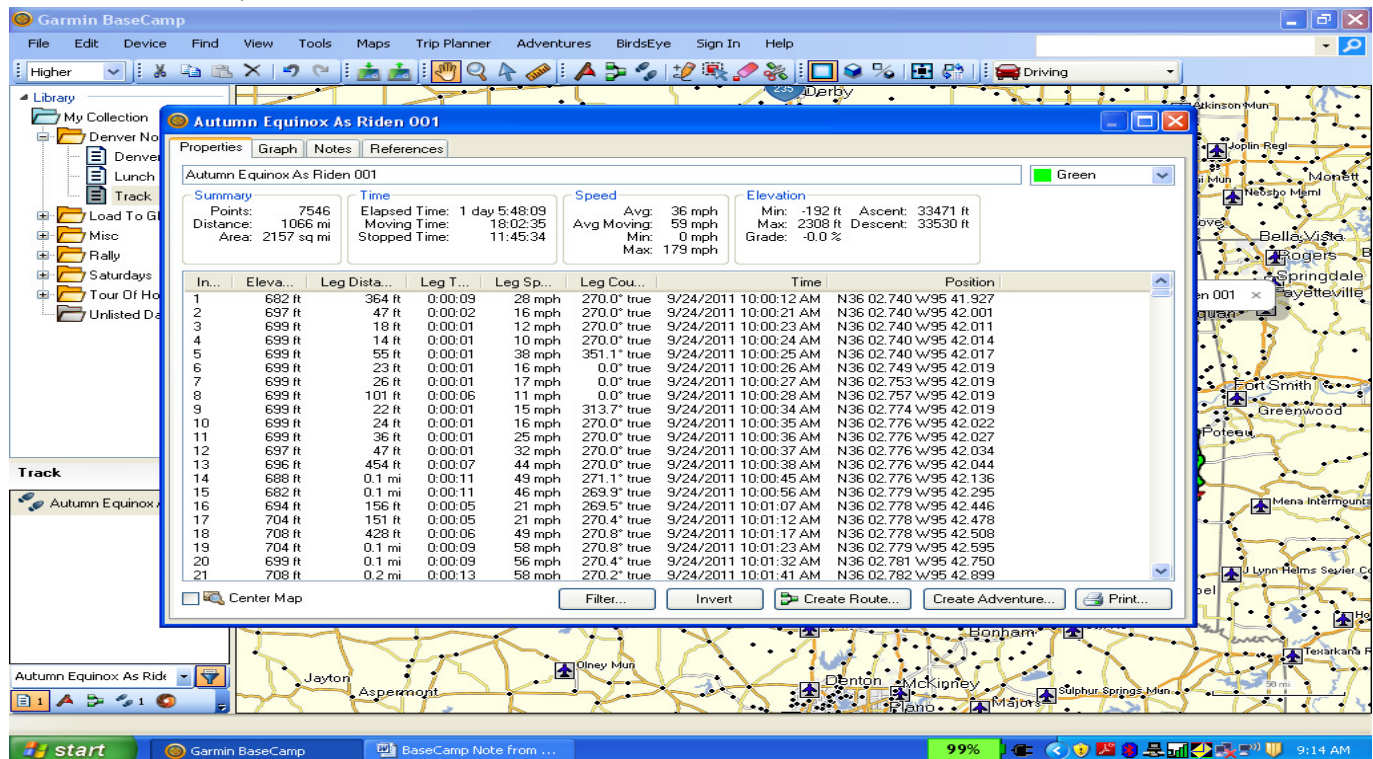
By highlighting any line in the Properties box, you'll get a large round dot on the map showing exactly where that point is in the overall trip.
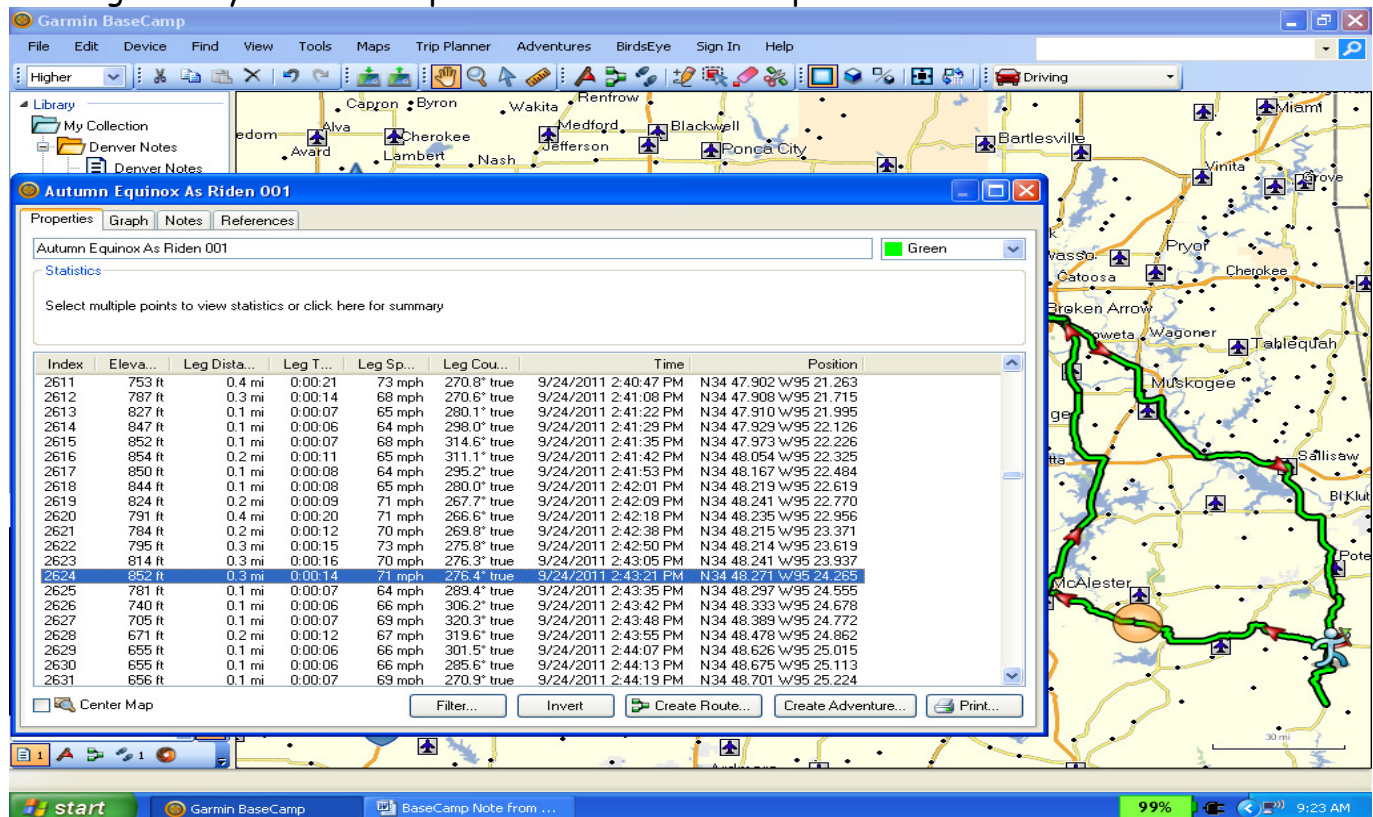
The next tab in the Track Properties box is Graph. The drop down boxes on the top right of that box allow you to look at Elevation or Speed. (Probably varies by GPS).
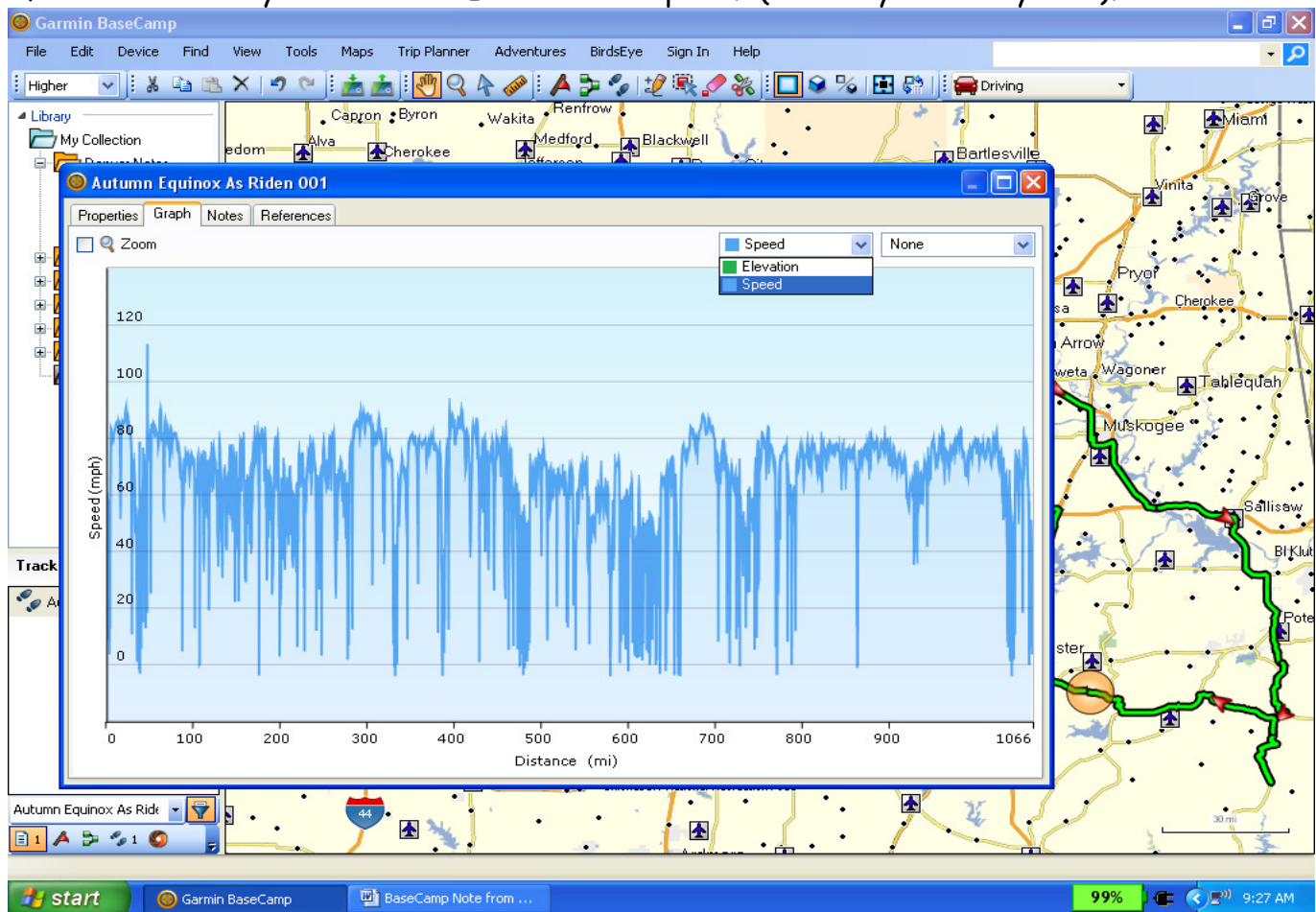
Or both at the same time by using the next box further to the right.
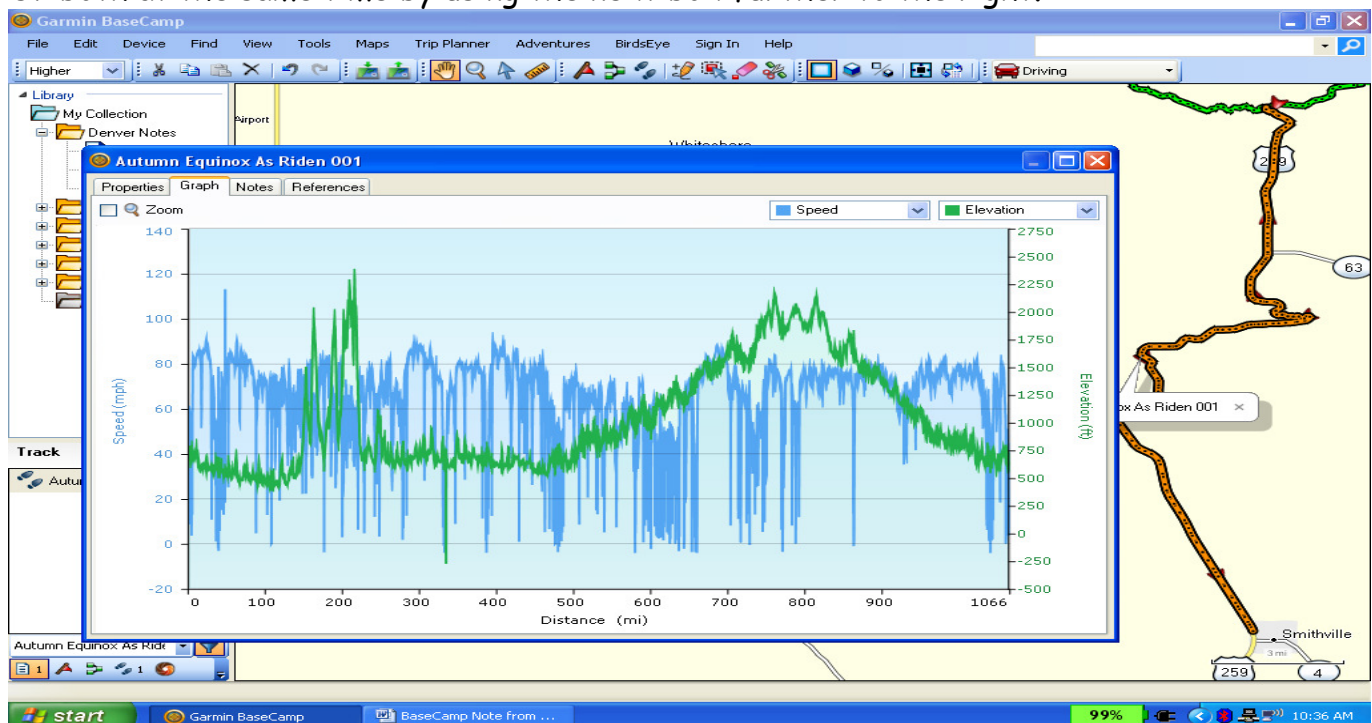
Click on the Zoom box (to the far left), and you can analyze the graph in much closer detail. There are now two graphs on your screen. The lower one is the full ride, while the upper one is only that portion of the full ride that is inside the highlighted portion of the lower graph. Expand or contract that highlight section in the lower graph by using your cursor to drag the sides to the right or left.
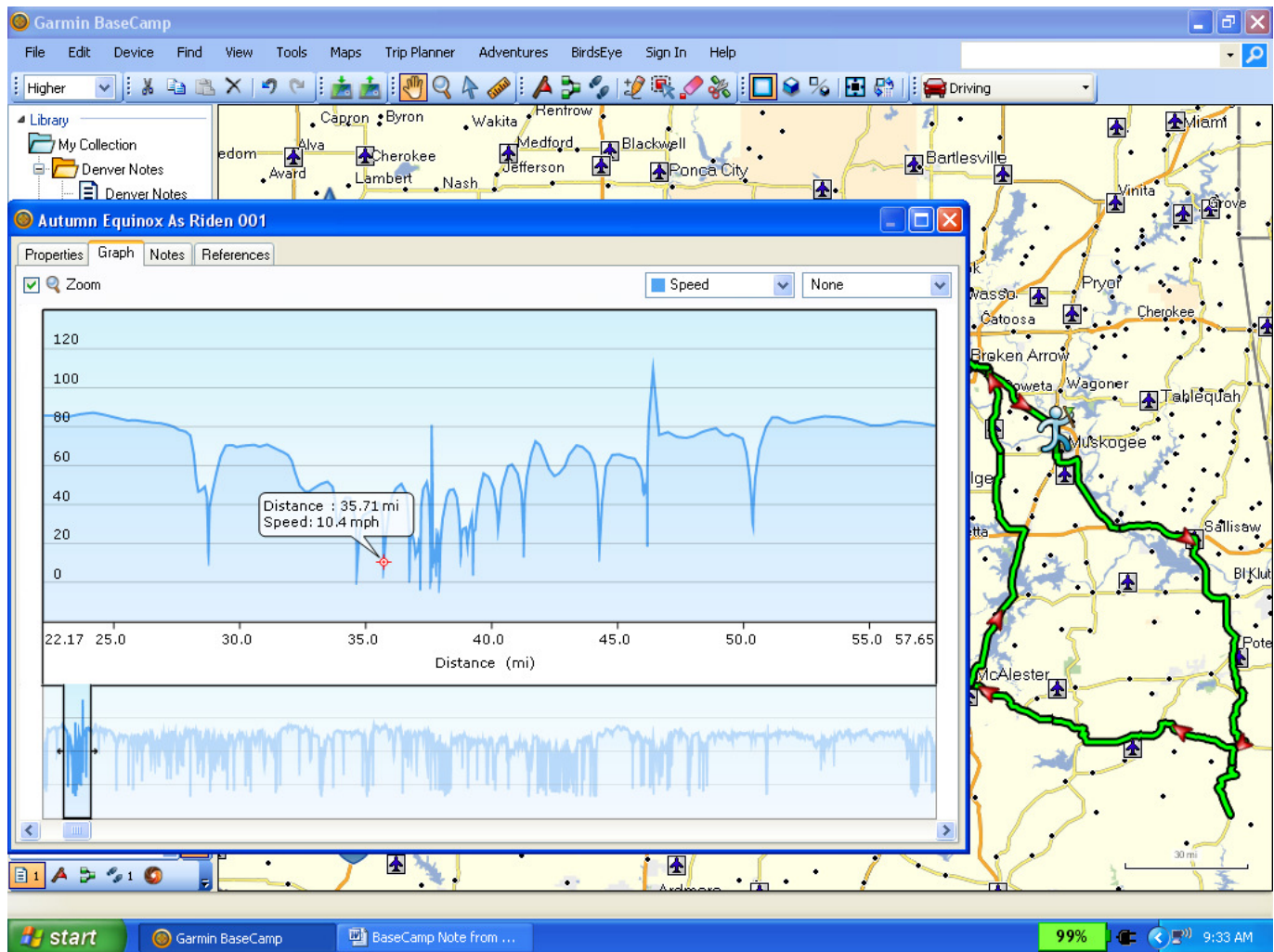
Follow along the track by moving your cursor along the graph line. Note that an icon on the map moves along the tracked route as you move your cursor on the graph.

As you move your cursor along the graph, note the icon on the map is moving along. At a selected point, left click your mouse. This creates a static point of reference on the graph as well as on the map. Continue on to another point and then left click. Another static point is created and you can analyze the changes.

I first left clicked on the spot where it appears Steve turned off the main highway and headed south. I next left clicked at the point where it appears Steve was at his southern most point and stopped. I'm guessing there was a bonus location here.
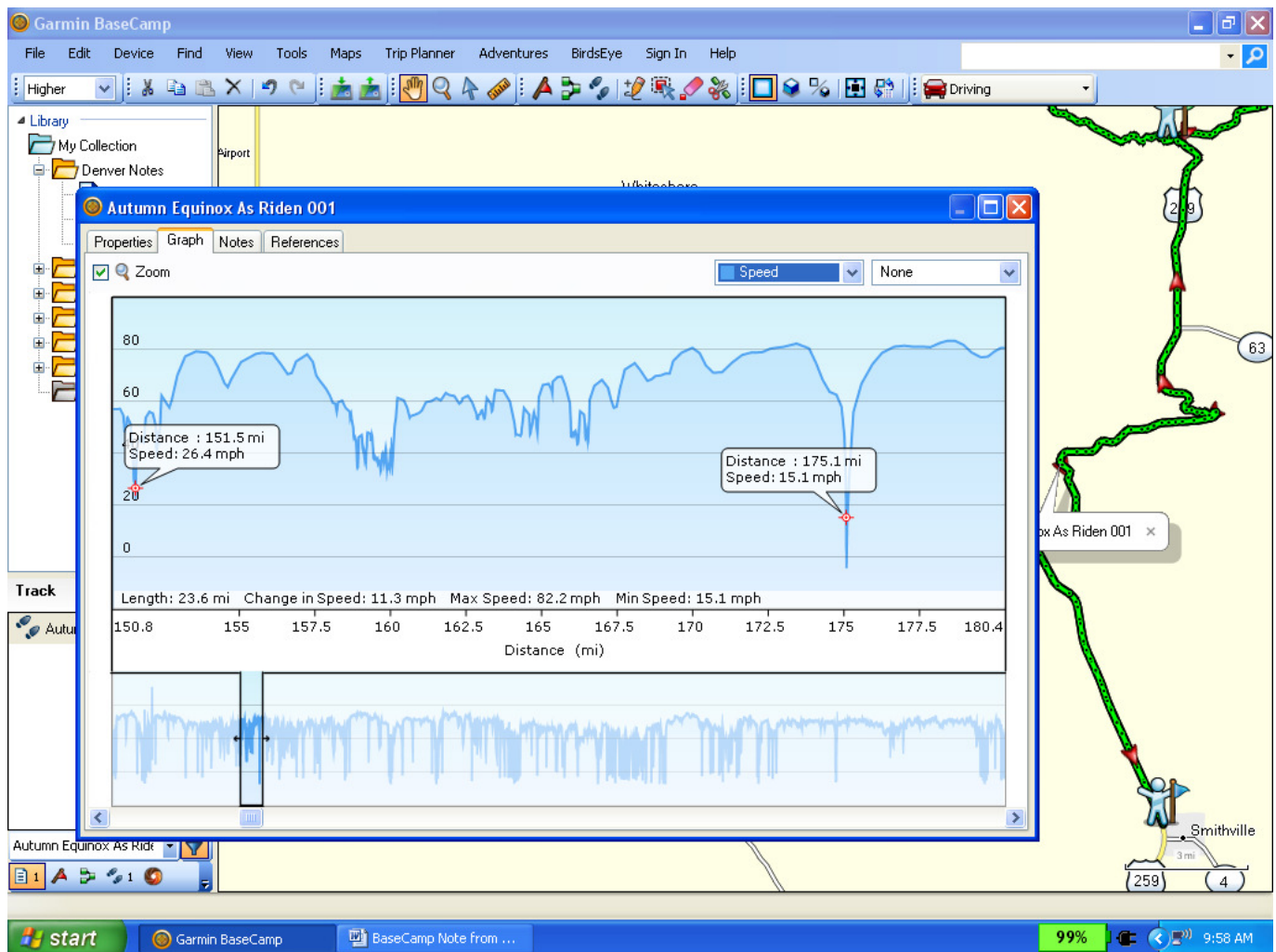
Click back on the Properties tab, and click on the map where the icon is in place for where we marked he turned off the highway heading for what appears to be a bonus location further south. Note that BaseCamp highlights that point in the Properties tab. Just scroll to find it.

Click on the southern icon indicating where he stopped and turned around after presumably getting the bonus. Again, scroll down the Properties tab and see that BaseCamp now highlights this spot.

The information allows us to see that he slowed and turned at 12:42:07pm, heading south. The information also shows that he later stopped at 1:04:50pm on 9/24.

Continuing the analysis you can see when he got back north and back on the main route – which was at 1:46:08pm on 9/24.
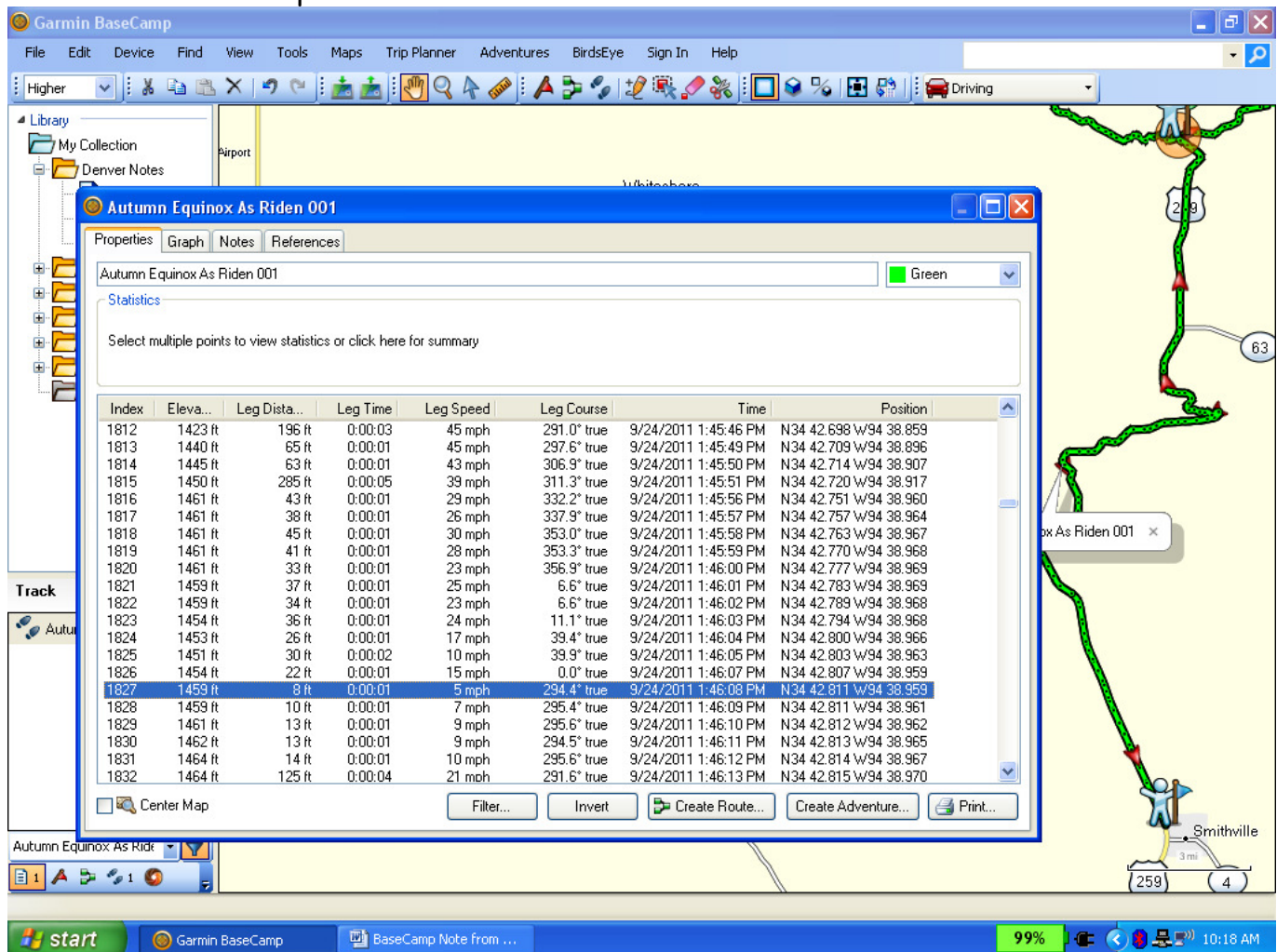
So this particular section of the route, to pick up this particular bonus from the initial point of turning off the main highway until returning to it, took from 12:42:07pm until 1:46:08pm – about 64 minutes. It appears that was 47.2 miles.

Notice that the Statistics box inside the Properties tab is blank. Simply select all the points in the track data from this analysis and the summary stats are automatically calculated in that Statistics box for you for that portion of the trip that you now have highlighted.

Want to brag about how efficient your fuel stops are? Now you have the data to check facts from fiction in your tracks. Just zoom in on your track map and properties tab to find the points where you pulled in and pulled out. Or where you got on the off-ramp until you got back on the highway. The data is all recorded for you.

Multiple Routes

Maura discussed how you can make multiple routes for a rally. She used her Poison rally info as a case study.   The rally had various themes and she established routes per theme. Each route was its own color so she could quickly see and compare them. Not having her data from Poison, here's my different routes for ToH in Pennsylvania and how they look. BaseCamp does allow you to create multiple routes on one map for easy comparison and analysis.
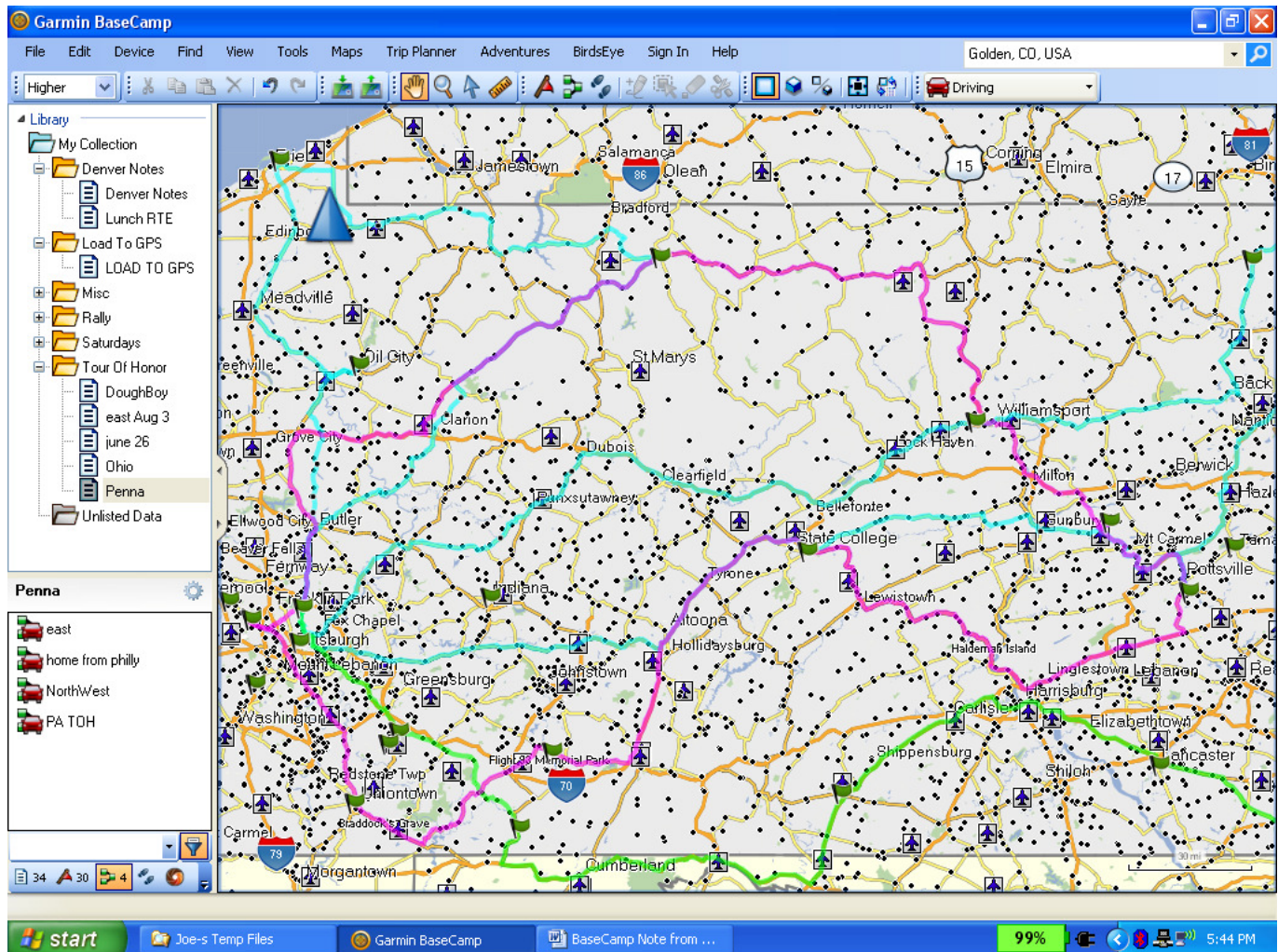
Since I do not want to download all this info to my GPS, nor do I want to delete/lose it based on all the time it took to create and analyze the options, I typically create yet one more list in My Collection. It is a list called Load To GPS. I transfer into that list only the route and waypoints I want. Everything else stays in my Library for another ride. I empty the Load To GPS list once I download the routes and waypoints from BaseCamp into my GPS.

<u>Using the Select option to hone in on bonus locations</u>

Lastly, Maura showed us how she handled the Big Sky Rally. From her map of the bonus locations, the rally covered multiple states. Maura wanted to ride Montana only. Using the Select tool, on the map, she created boxes of selected areas outside of Montana. For each box she drew with the Select tool, any bonus locations inside that area became highlighted in the data box (left column on the BaseCamp screen). She right clicked on those selected/highlighted bonus locations, opened the Properties box, and changed the symbol. She repeated the selection process a number of times until she had only Montana bonus location symbols unchanged. She was then able to set up her route using only Montana bonus locations. And, she still has all of the other bonus locations to go ride to at some later date, just for the fun of it.

It was an excellent session, and time was not sufficient to cover all that was needed.

THANK YOU, MAURA, FOR PRESENTING THIS INFORMATION AT THE 2014 IBA DENVER MEET.