



Central Jersey Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2024 Issue

May 2024 President's Message

Dear members,

Dear Members, I'm so proud of our club! We're coming into the home stretch for this year having so much success with our goals for 2023/2024. We've competed successfully at NJOS, DCOS and SEPOS. If these anachronisms make you scratch your head you are not alone. When I joined our club, back in the very early 2000s, I felt like I was in a mystic society who spoke a language I didn't understand. I knew I wanted to learn how to grow these living jewels but I didn't know very much. Fast forward to 2024. The love of the orchids we grow and the friendships I've made has enriched my life immensely. I hope your orchid experiences have done that for you as well. Our speaker for May 16th is Sergey Skoropad. Sergey has won over a hundred AOS awards and will be speaking about Paphiopedilums and how to grow them without a greenhouse, Paphiopedilum culture, classification and judging. Our annual picnic is June 22nd, a Saturday, in the backyard of myself and Paul @ 19 Farm Road, Ewing NJ. All paid up members are welcome to bring a guest. Invitations will be sent out shortly by Toby Parnett. See you on May 16th , Anne Skalka

Anne Skalka

Orchid of the Month



**Cattleya Fire Dance Patricia
Rob Rosenbaum**

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Meetings**

Meeting Location

Trinity Church 33 Mercer St.,
Princeton, NJ 08540-6893

Meetings and Events 2023-24

Arrive at 6:30.

Meeting will start at 7:00PM

Meetings are held the **Third Thursday** of the month.

October: CJOS Auction

Nov: Kim Feddersen Fair Orchids

December: Holiday Party

January: Carrie Buchman "Orchids with tiny flowers" NJOS president and AOS judge.

February: Panel of Experts

March 21: Jaymie Santiago- Award standards, judging display design
Bill Bodei - Transforming Outdoor Space

April 18: John Bryan – Building a basement grow room.

May 16:

Sergey Skoropad:

Paphiopedilums and how to grow them without greenhouse, classification, culture and judging.

June 22: Picnic

Officers and Committees:

President - Anne Skalka

Vice President – Jaymie Santiago

Treasurer/Membership – Matt Pagano

Corresponding/Recording Secretary -
Tobie Parnett

Editor Newsletter - Ed Frankel

CJOSnewsletter@gmail.com

George Wallace – Web Master

Jeff Tyron – CJOS Photographer

Details (Maps and Pictures) of Meeting Location on Pages
15-18

Additional Parking for CJOS Meeting see page 19

May CJOS Speaker

Sergey Skoropad has been growing a wide variety of orchids without a greenhouse for over 20 years. His skills are exemplified by over 100 cultural and flower quality awards; he is an accredited judge in Northeast Judging Center. Sergey is a professional jeweler and designer. He loves traveling around the world searching for the finest gems and orchids growing in their natural habitat (follow on Instagram @orchid.magic; email: sergeskrpd@yahoo.com).

Sergey will talk about Paphiopedilums and how to grow them without greenhouse: classification, culture and judging.

How Do You Grow?

I would like to show a members growing methods/conditions. Please send me pictures of your growing conditions (summer/winter) CJOSNewsletter@gmail.com. Let's see some pictures of your growing space.

New CJOS meeting format additions

We are going to have a few minutes in each meeting to let members ask questions about their growing, plant conditions, or anything that they are uncertain about. If you want to bring in a plant and it is having a problem, please bring it in a plastic bag as to not transfer any disease or bugs to member's plants.

We also going to try to do a short segment on plant pests and diseases, each month, time permitting.

CJOS Members Show Table

Cattleya

1. **Cattleya Fire Dance Patricia**
Rob Rosenbaum



2. **SLC Rockette Little Rock x Pot Starfire Rubens**
Joe Thomas

3. **Rth (Pot) Florida Embers**
(Burana Angel x Little Toshie)
Matt Pagano



Dendrobium/Oncidium

1. **Oncidium NOID**
Karen Kennedy



2. **Dendrobium unicum**
Joe Thomas

Other

1. **Miltoniopsis Lennart Karl Gottling
Tobie Parnett**



2. **Pac classic Amber Alert x Pac alert yellow orange
Tobie Parnett**

Species

1. **Rhy Digbyana**
Ed and Pam Frankel



2. **Paph Deperle**
Joe Thomas



3. **Dendrobium unicum**
Joe Thomas

Paphs/Phrags

1. Paph Gary Romagna
Anne Skalka



2. Paph Red Illusion x Macabre
Karen Kennedy

3. Paph Deperle
Joe Thomas



Orchid of the Month



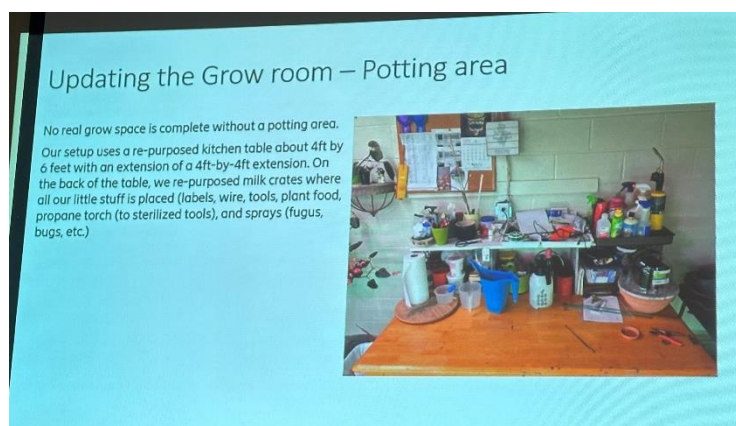
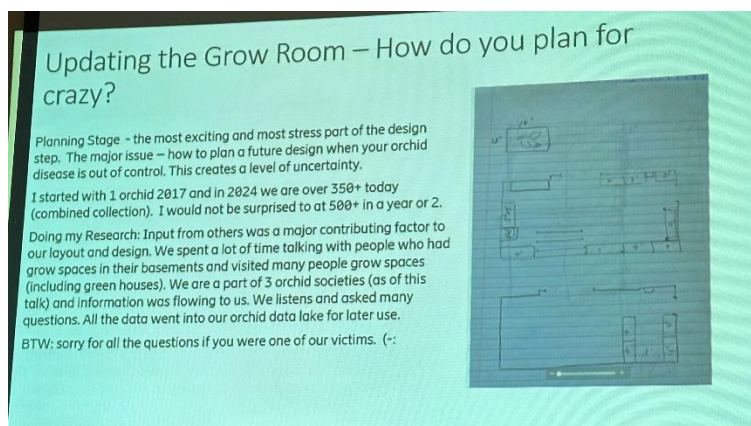
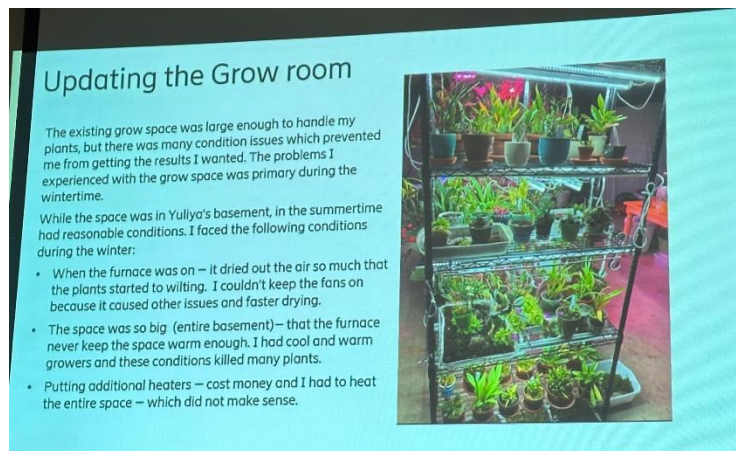
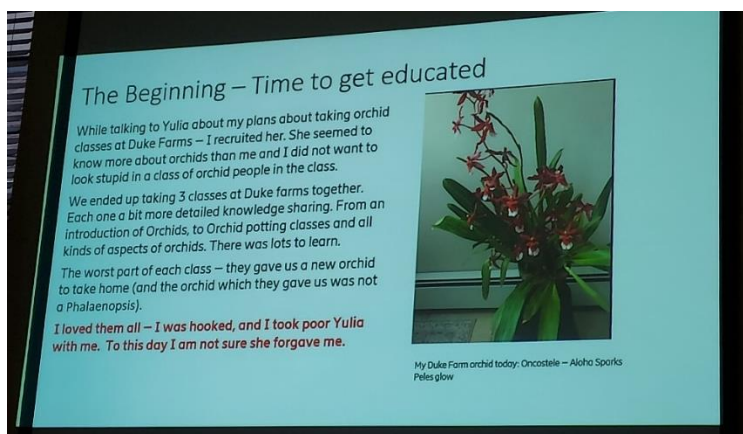
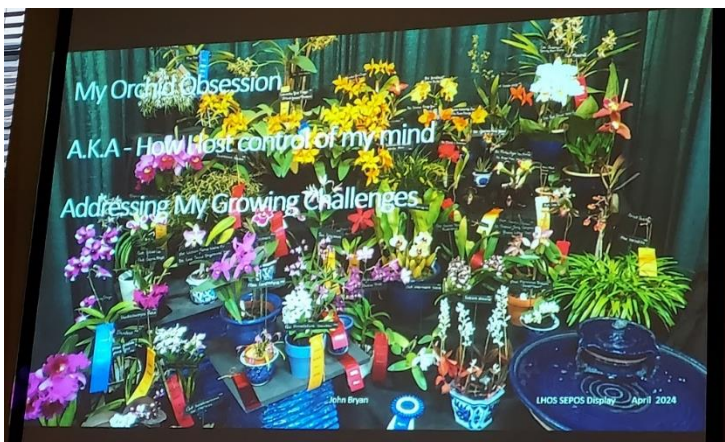
**Cattleya Fire Dance Patricia
Rob Rosenbaum**

Important Show Table information!

A document is attached to the email which sends this newsletter. Now you can fill out your show table card at home. This will save you time and you can hopefully print better (more legibly) for the judges to read and record.

April Speaker

John Bryan – Building a basement grow room.



Updating the Grow room – Done – Were we successful?

It is done – Results so far

We have seemed real benefits from the grow space

- The room stays warmer without running any heating device (saves money). It warms up by just using the lights.
- The temperature shift from night today is much greater and I believe this represents how it is in nature.
- The room stays much more humid – water less
- The room is brighter with the lights in an enclosed space.



Bad side

- We changed the growing conditions, we needed to alter some of growing approaches.
- Plants got so big over the last year – we are almost out of room again.
- **Yulla is always hiding in the basement with her plants. Another place to search for her.**

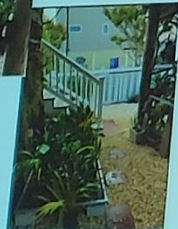
Updating the Grow room – Results

More space between isles



My plants go on vacation

They are now enjoying the beach weather in the summer – I have already received requests from the plants to sit on the beach under the umbrella





American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.




Upcoming Webinars



Take a Trip to Taiwan, the World Orchid Conference with Carol Klonowski

Carol Klonowski


 Thursday, May 16th, 2024
8:30 pm EST EST

Carol takes us to Taiwan for the 2024 World Orchid Conference, and the TOGA show, occurring together for the first time.



Greenhouse Chat June 2024

Ron McHatton


 Wednesday, June 5th, 2024
8:30 PM - 9:20 PM EDT EST

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your question and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by June 3, 2004.



SITF—HOW DO YOU DO THAT AGAIN? The Tools and the Process

Arthur Pinkers

 Tuesday, June 11th, 2024
8:30 EDT EST

Go to [AOS.org](https://www.aos.org) for information on orchid culture and care.

While you are visting their site, please join AOS. Support this worthy organization. Lots of benefits.

CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@hotmail.com

Q1. This is my Rlc. Volcano Spring with blotches on a single leaf. Any thoughts on this disease and recommended treatment?

A1. That looks like a cercosporoid infection, from one of the leaf spotting fungi. The typical recommendation is to spray with thiophanate methyl, such as in Thiomyd or Banrot. Unfortunately, the fungicide won't cure the infection, just help prevent unaffected leaves from becoming infected. You'll have to decide whether you want to remove the infected leaf, which undoubtedly contains spores that have the potential to spread the disease.



Q2. I've had a mature Rlc. Golf Green 'Hair Pig' acquired through Odoms several years ago, which has consistently bloomed, but the flowers present themselves dismally, e.g., bent, upside down, and twisted. I gave it several years, but it has never improved. This photo was taken in 2021 but doesn't convey the problem as the flower was wired in place. I hate to send it to the compost, but what does one do with a plant such as this?

A2. The problem is the long pedicel Golf Green inherits from its digbyana parent. The only way I know to overcome it is to stake it early in the process, and you might have to be creative with your staking. It's a beautiful flower when it is presented like you had it in 2021!



Q3. I saw my friend's coconut orchid and her pseudobulbs are nice and plump. My pseudobulbs are wrinkled. What can I do? It is outside and gets lots of indirect sunlight.



A3. That plant looks dehydrated. The two most likely causes are either it's not being watered frequently enough or the roots have rotted so it can't take up the water it is being given. Try to pick up the plant by the vegetation and see if it's wobbly in the pot. If it is, the roots aren't healthy. This orchid also has a tendency to grow up and out, so it responds really well to being grown in a basket. See if you can find a 6 or 8 inch basket for it, and pot it up. You can bring it to the repotting clinic and we'll help you with it.

CULTIVATION



Too Many Orchids by Dr. Courtney Hackney

Paphs and phrags are largely terrestrial plants, which require more constant moisture. They have roots that do not have the hard protective covering found on epiphytes. Let these orchids sit bare-root for any length of time and the roots dry up and die. You can imagine my surprise when

an experiment with a paph planted in lava rock yielded fantastic growth and flowers. Admittedly, the experiment was initially done because I am lazy and did not want to repot my paphs every year. Most paphs are grown in some kind of bark mix that holds more moisture, which is ideal for their fine roots. As terrestrial plants, they do not need roots that will survive the drying that epiphytes experience. Unlike some orchid groups, paphs and phrags can grow very fast under the right conditions, i.e. good light and nutrients.



Most expert paph growers repot these orchids at least annually, but there are ways of extending the time between repotting besides growing them in some rock mixture. If your paphs are potted in an organic mix, a simple approach that will extend the time between repotting is to spray a fine jet of water into the top of each pot to wash away the fine products of decay. Often, what are left are larger particles of bark, perlite and charcoal. Once all of the fine material is washed out, add some additional bark on the top and dress with pelletized dolomite lime on the surface to raise the pH of the medium. If the paph just falls from the pot at this time, it needed repotting anyway.

It is the acidity that comes from decomposing bark that causes problems for paphs and phrags. The slow release type of dolomite lime lasts longer, but needs to be added every month or so depending on the pH of your water. Most paph species naturally grow in limestone outcrops or soils derived from limestone, so the addition of the extra calcium and magnesium found in dolomite lime is beneficial to the paph as well as a pH buffer.



Paph. David Ott (supardii x rothschildianum)

Being basically lazy, my approach is to avoid organic media and use lava rock. Lava rock holds water and grows paphs and even phrags well as long as adequate fertilizer is applied. I put larger lava rocks in the bottom of the pot, 1/2-1" and smaller ones on top, depending on the pot size. My large paphs are in 6" deep plastic pots where 1-2" lava rock goes on the bottom. Even here in Florida where water is very basic, it is necessary to add dolomite lime. If you use an organic medium, follow the same procedure, except use plastic peanuts for drainage at the bottom and be aware that organic media can sour quickly. The only modification I have made since I began using lava rock 8 or 9 years ago is the addition of 10% or so of lime rock to the lava rock. I try to match the size of the lava rock when I add lime rock.

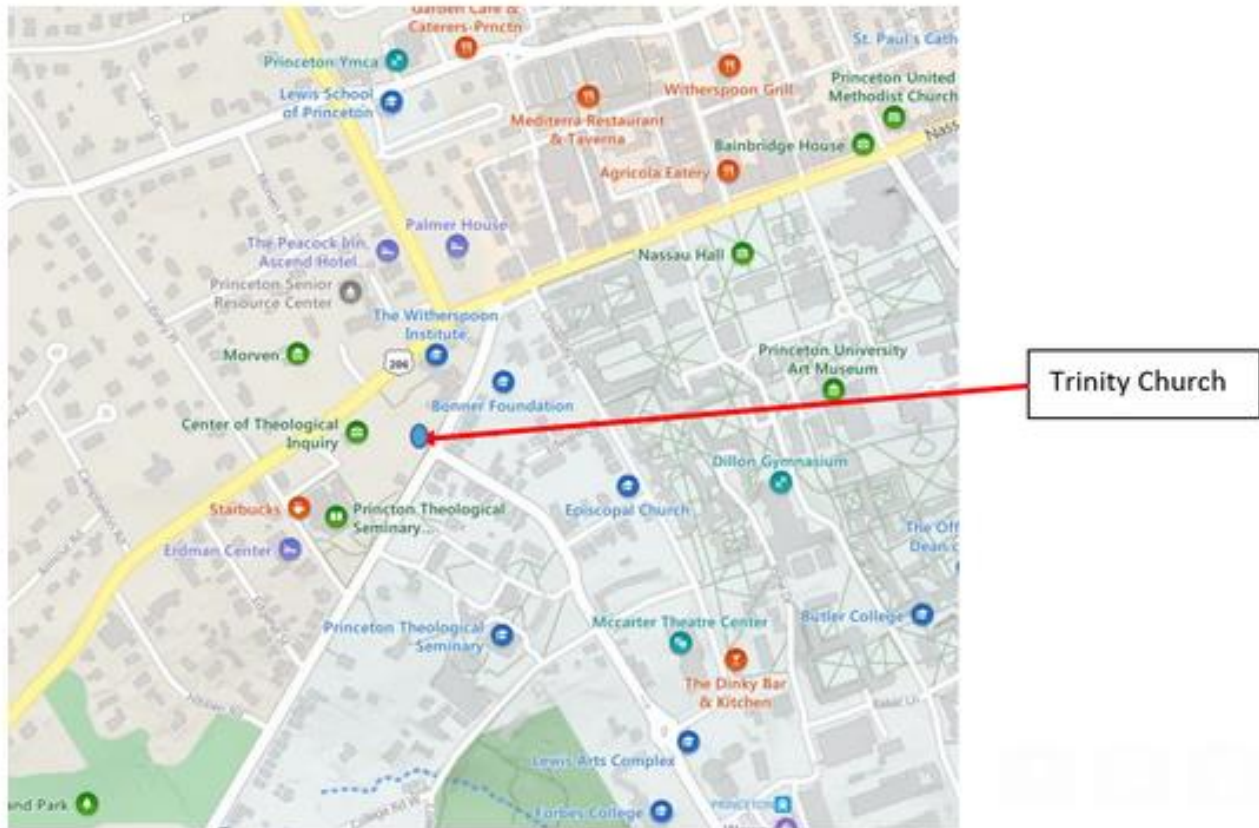
The only issue that results from growing large paphs in lava rock is that old growths and their roots eventually decay, producing the acid conditions around roots that can cause problems. Sometimes, a sterile cutting tool can be used to simply cut the old growth from new growths. If done when the orchid is wet the old roots will come out with the old growth, removing a source of decaying organic matter. A jet of water directed at the hole where the old growth was removed will get most of the decaying roots out. I also put a teaspoon of dolomite lime in the hole and cover it with new lava rock.

The only other issue so far with lava rock medium is the plant pushing up and out of the pot. As new roots fill the pot they seem to push the whole plant out and up. It does make it easy to move the whole plant, roots rocks and all into a new pot, but my goal is to not repot.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from May 2012.

Meeting Location Trinity Church 33 Mercer St, Princeton, NJ 08540-6893 (using 47 Mercer St for GPS may pinpoint the parking lot better)

Here are some map locations and pictures (next few pages) to help find the new location. Here is one of the easiest ways to pin point the new meeting location: It is almost directly opposite Alexander Rd. Since it will probably be dark, I have included a few night time pictures of the meeting location.





Church Entrance

Church Parking Lot



Church Entrance

Night Time pictures of meeting location



This view is looking south on Mercer St (away from downtown Princeton) note the crosswalk just before the entrance to the Parking lot.



This view is looking north on Mercer St (toward downtown Princeton)

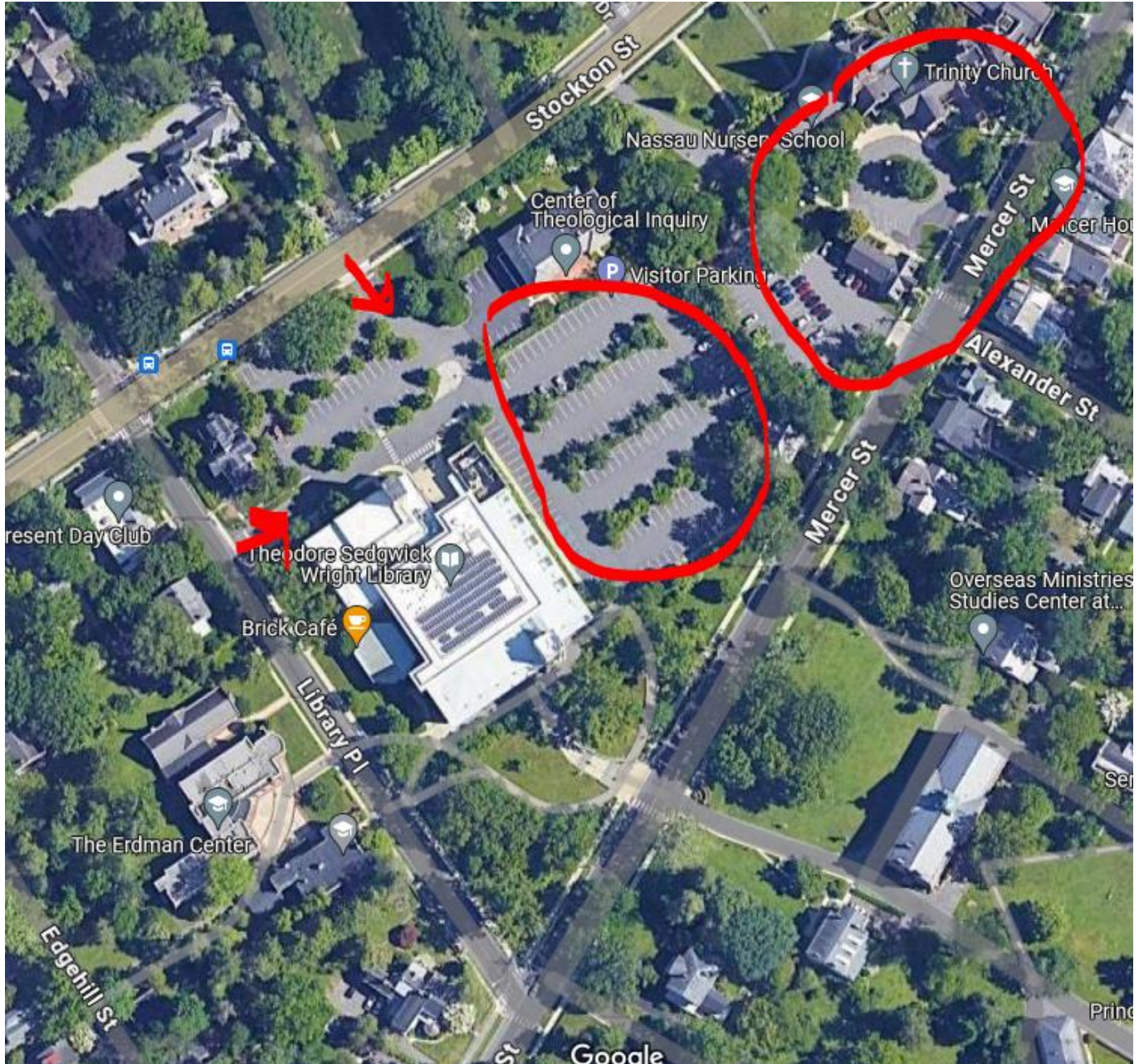


This view is in the parking lot facing toward the meeting entrance door.



This view is the door (the one that is brightly lit, straight ahead) for the meeting entrance

Additional Parking for CJOS Meeting



You can get to this additional parking (Princeton Theological Seminary Library) from Route 206 or Library Place (see map above). There is a cut through path to get to the Trinity Church meeting site from this parking lot. Facing the Trinity Church it is to the far right. It was a little snowy the last meeting, but I was able to get through.