

# Winter Star Party 2010 Preview: Paracorr Type-2

## Background

Since developing the Paracorr (Parabola Corrector) in 1989, we've made many refinements to enhance its performance, for both visual use and imaging. By eliminating the effects of mirror-induced coma, "fast" scopes could be made as aberration-free as "slow" scopes.

We showed that f/4 scopes equipped with the Paracorr rivaled non-corrected f/8 scopes. Shorter, more compact Dobsonians with dramatically larger fields became much more practical.

Indeed, at the 2009 WSP, Mike Lockwood took it a big step forward with his 20" f/3.0, "no ladder" Dob. With a scope that fast, the Paracorr was definitely required! Although reports of it working nicely were appreciated (see *Sky & Tel* article), we at Tele Vue knew that, just as the standard Paracorr was optimized for f/4.5, the new Paracorr must be optimized for f/3.0. Hey, it's our "Ethos", after all! And, as with the Ethos eyepieces, our own Paul Dellechiaie played a major role in developing the Paracorr Type 2.

By Okie-Tex 2009, Mike Lockwood helped things along greatly by building an ideal "proof of concept" scope; a 14.5" f/2.55. A Starmaster 22" f/3.3 was on hand as well, along with our prototype 21mm Ethos.

Scott Ewart and I are shepherding the mechanical and functional parts of this project, including a combination "drop-in" universal / visual-imaging model, which will be available from

Tele Vue dealers. The optical section can be unscrewed from the tunable top for imaging applications using our array of imaging system components.

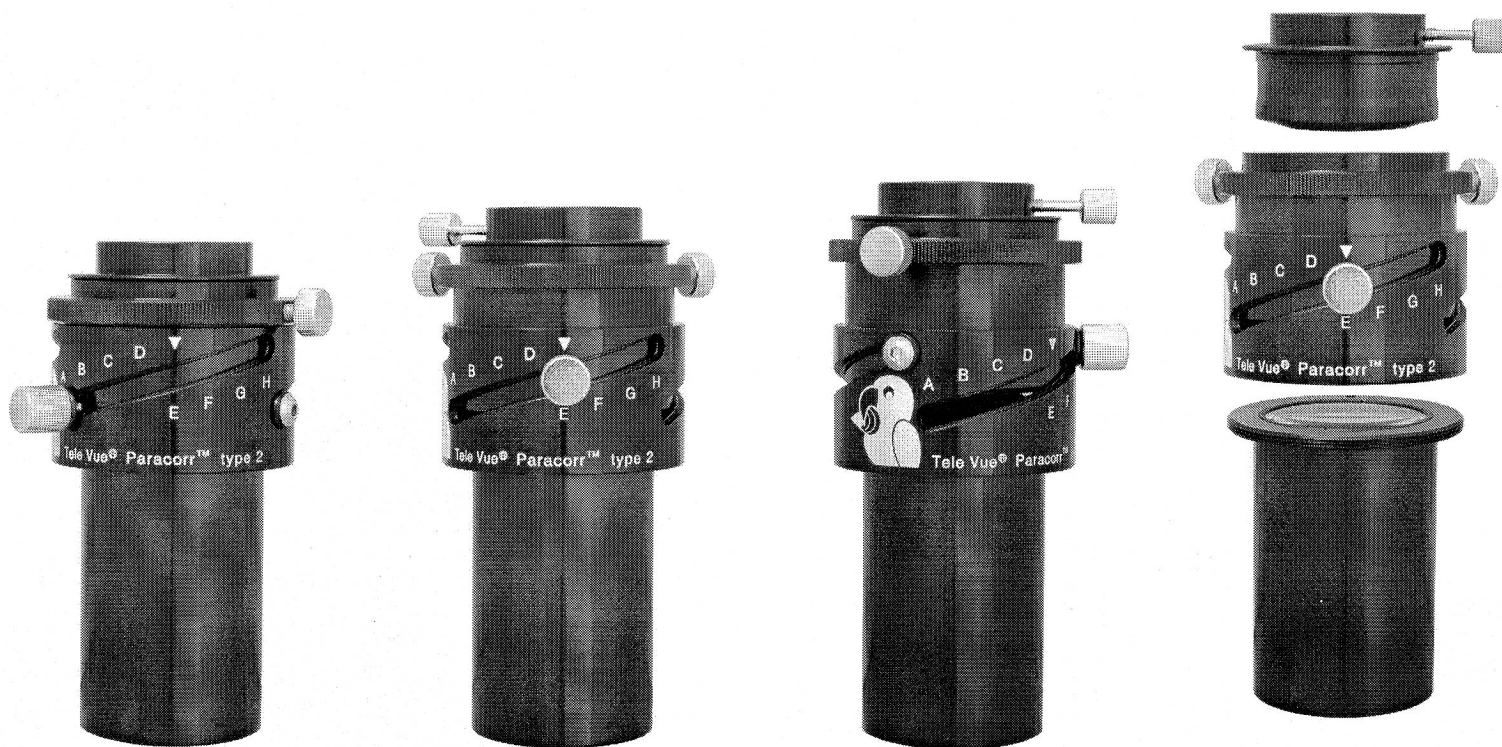
For ultimate convenience, as well as optical performance, we are partnering with Starlight Instruments who will market focusers with a built-in, stationary position Paracorr Type 2. For Dob manufacturers, or hobbyists building large Dobs, the user can avoid the need for a "tunable top" to match different eyepieces to the Paracorr. When properly installed, focusing any eyepiece will automatically deliver optimum Paracorr correction. This "Paracorr embedded Feathertouch" version will be sold by Starlight Instruments. I hope you have a chance to say hello to John Joseph and Adam Overmeyer of Starlight.

To see what the Paracorr Type 2 can do in a fast Dob, be sure to check out Mike Lockwood's 20" f/3 and 14.5" f/2.55 scopes right here at WSP.

Your comments and suggestions are welcomed and appreciated.



— Al Nagler, CEO



Paracorr Type-2 at "A" Position

Paracorr Type-2 at "E" Position (neutral offset)

Paracorr Type-2 at "H" Position

Paracorr Type-2 showing 1 1/4" adapter (top) and imaging base (bottom)