Fun Facts:

**M37: OPEN CLUSTER**

Computer Code: m37

* **Other Names:**
  + NGC 2099
* **Location:**
  + RA: 05h 53m 4s
  + Dec: 32⁰ 33’
* **Basics:**
  + Description: open cluster in Auriga
    - It is one of three Messier open clusters in the southern part of Auriga…probably the nicest one.
  + Visual Magnitude: +5.59
  + Apparent Size: 14.0 arcminutes
  + Distance: 4,500 light years away
  + Diameter: 18.4 light years across
* **History:**
  + First discovered by 1654 by Giovanni Batista Hodierma, but his observations were largely unknown until 1984.
  + In 1749, Guillaume Le Gentil independently discovered 2 nearby clusters that aren’t as bright (M36 & M38).
  + Not knowing about Hodierma’s discovery, Charles Messier found M37 in 1764 and included it in his list.
* **Other Notes:**
  + Contains at least 150 stars, maybe even as many as 500. Most are between 9th and 12th magnitude or brighter.
  + It is about the same age and size as nearby M38. It’s about 300 million years old.
  + It contains mostly main sequence type A stars and at least a dozen red giant stars.