

# LAB 8 - THE BIG 3



# README

## REMINDERS

- No lab next week
- Lab 8 due Sunday, November 18th at 8pm
- Project 4 due Monday, November 19th at 8pm

## AGENDA

- Review - The Big Three
- Worksheet
- Lobster Exercise
- Lab 8
- Project Questions?

# DYNAMIC MEMORY

Recall:

If we use dynamic memory, we have a responsibility to clean up that memory when we're done!

Example:

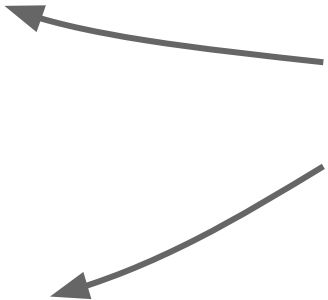
```
int num[] = new int[5];
```

```
delete[] num;
```

OR

```
int num = new int(5);
```

```
delete num;
```



Remember to use the correct syntax for deleting an array of items vs. a single item!

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CLASS MANAGES DYNAMIC MEMORY?

```
24 class CatLover {  
25 private:  
26     Cat * cats;  
27 public:  
28     CatLover() :  
29         cats(new Cat[10]) {}  
30 };
```

```
CatLover Drew;  
CatLover Sally = CatLover(Drew);
```

But what happens when we set Sally = CatLover(Drew)?

The Heap



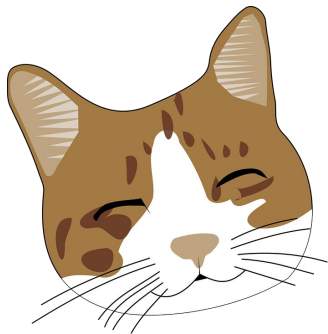
When this constructor runs, “cats” points to a new array of Cats on the heap



# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CLASS MANAGES DYNAMIC MEMORY?

```
24 class CatLover {  
25 private:  
26     Cat * cats;  
27 public:  
28     CatLover() :  
29         cats(new Cat[10]) {}  
30 };
```

```
CatLover Drew;  
CatLover Sally = CatLover(Drew);
```



```
//Basically, when we haven't  
//defined a custom copy constructor,  
//the compiler will provide a  
//default one for us, kind of like  
//this one... but what's the problem?  
CatLover(const CatLover & other) :cats(other.cats) {}
```

Compiler assumes we want an exact copy of each member variable... is that really what we want here?

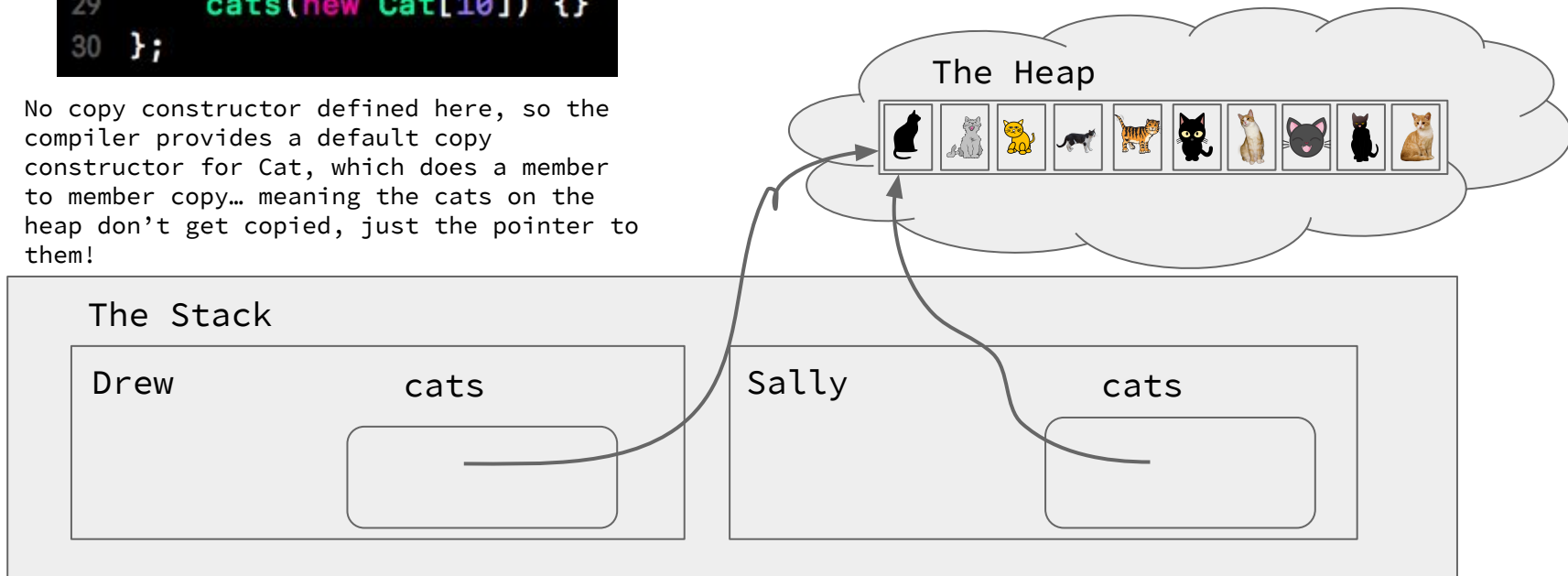
# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CLASS MANAGES DYNAMIC MEMORY?

```
24 class CatLover {  
25 private:  
26     Cat * cats;  
27 public:  
28     CatLover() :  
29         cats(new Cat[10]) {}  
30 };
```

No copy constructor defined here, so the compiler provides a default copy constructor for Cat, which does a member to member copy... meaning the cats on the heap don't get copied, just the pointer to them!

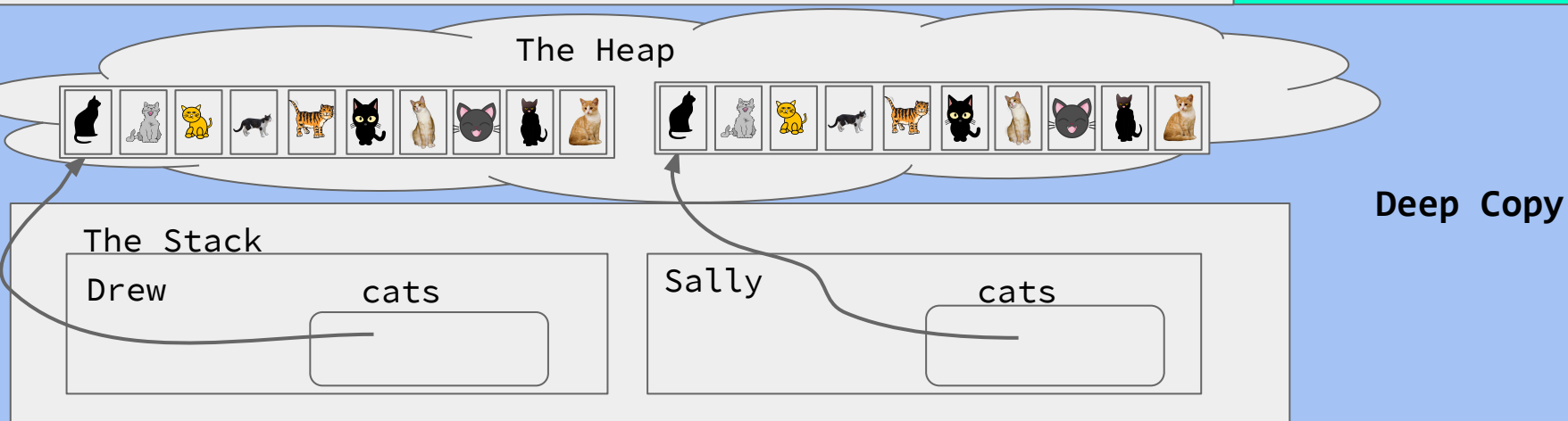
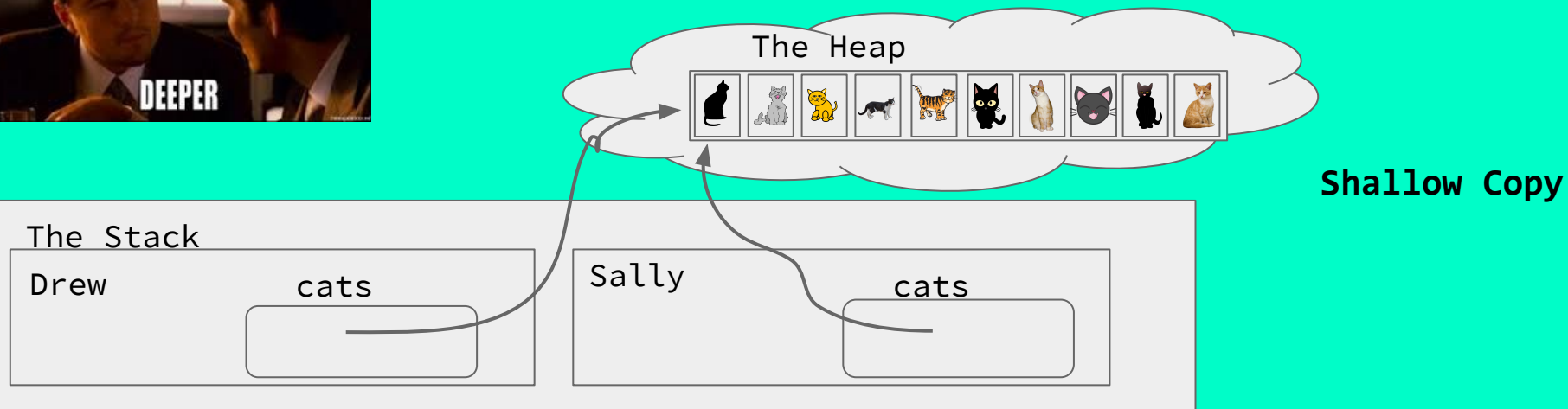
```
CatLover Drew;  
CatLover Sally = CatLover(Drew);
```

Sally gets to share Drew's cats!





# SHALLOW COPY VS DEEP COPY



# THE BIG THREE

- Copy Constructor
  - Initializes an object by making it a “copy” of another object
- Assignment Operator
  - Assigns an already initialized object to be equal to another object
- Destructor
  - Gets an object’s affairs in order before it is destroyed
- When does my class need The Big Three?
  - (Probably whenever you say “new”!)

```
//Copy Constructor
Cat(const Cat & other);


//Overloaded Assignment Operator
Cat & operator=(const Cat & other);

//Destructor
~Cat();
```



```
92 //In which lines do we call:
93 //Copy Constructor?
94 //Assignment Operator?
95 //Destructor?
96 if(true) {
97     Cat Fluffy;
98     Cat Fluffy2(Fluffy);
99     Cat Fluffy3 = Fluffy;
100    Fluffy3 = Fluffy2;
```

1 2 3





# WRITING A COPY CONSTRUCTOR

- We need custom copy constructors to copy over objects' dynamic memory
- We will take in the other object by const reference
- We will allocate new dynamic memory and copy over values



```
//Copy ctor takes other by const &
CatLover(const CatLover & other) {
    //Allocate a new array on the heap
    cats = new Cat[10];

    //Copy cat values into new array
    for(int i = 0; i < 10; ++i) {
        cats[i] = other.cats[i];
    }
}
```

# WRITING AN OVERLOADED ASSIGNMENT OPERATOR

- Think about why copy constructors were necessary - assignment operators are necessary for almost the same reason!
- Called when an already initialized object is assigned
- Key tips:
  - Take parameter by const &
  - Check for self-assignment
  - Take care of old dynamic memory
  - Allocate new dynamic memory and copy values over
  - Return item being assigned into by reference
- Why do we need to check for self-assignment?

```
//Overloaded Assignment Operator
CatLover& operator=(const CatLover & rhs) {
    //Check for self-assignment
    if(this == &rhs) { return *this; }

    //Clean up old dynamic memory
    delete[] cats;

    //Allocate new dynamic memory
    cats = new Cat[10];

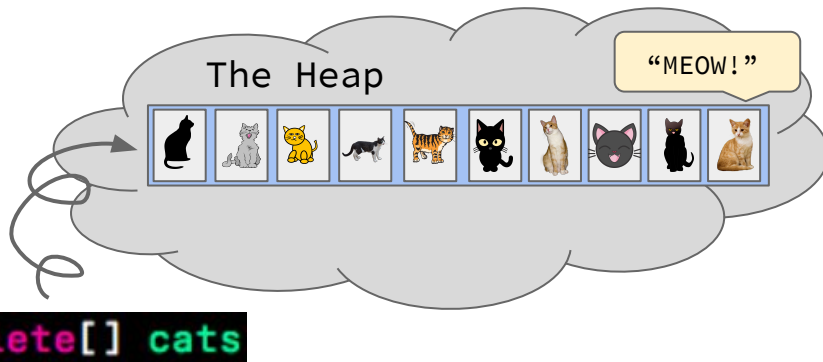
    //Copy cat values into new array
    for(int i = 0; i < 10; ++i) {
        cats[i] = rhs.cats[i];
    }

    //Return this object
    return *this;
}
```

# WRITING A DESTRUCTOR

- All objects need to clean up their dynamic memory before they are destroyed – otherwise we will have no way to clean it up and we'll leak a lot of memory.
- Make sure you delete all of the dynamic memory the object manages.
- Note: make your destructors **virtual** if there are subtypes involved!

```
//Destructor  
~CatLover() {  
    delete[] cats;  
}
```



# WORKSHEET!



**I Am Developer**

@iamdeveloper

Follow

manager: we need to design an admin  
system for a veterinary centre

dev: ok, this is it, remember your training

```
class Dog extends Animal {}
```

6:35 AM - 4 May 2016

# NEXT...

- Please go to:

<https://lobster.eecs.umich.edu>

- And select from the EECS280 Code portion:

lab08\_BigThree.cpp

- Step through this with a partner for a few minutes

# MOVING ON!

- Lab 8
- Project 4 Questions?

