

Do cats see ghosts? Your cat is sleeping peacefully next to the window when it suddenly wakes up and starts looking at the ceiling as though a bird has just come in through the window. But try as you might, you can't see anything flying around in your living room. Or, all of a sudden, your kitty settles in and stares at a wall for minutes on end as though its favorite film (The Lion King!) is being projected there. Again, you look at the wall for some kind of sign, but in vain: you see nothing that explains its sudden interest. A lot of people claim that a cat's heightened senses enable them to see ghosts or spirits. But before concluding that your feline is communing with Casper, let's look at how a cat's senses work to see what's really going on.



HOW CATS SEE

When a cat starts looking this way and that, we tend to think that they're actively searching for something. In some cases, that's true. Maybe they saw a reflection that was only there for a second or a fly that zipped past. But it's worth noting that, though cats have excellent night vision, their day vision is far worse than ours. In fact, they only see two colors—shades of blue and yellow—whereas we see three. And anything from about 2 inches to 26 feet in front of them will appear blurry. But, instead of a third color, cats have night vision.

Cats are excellent predators. Their eyesight is very sharp in the center of their field of vision—which enables them to focus on their targets—but blurry on the edges. So when they're on the hunt, they never rely solely on their vision. They also make use of two other senses that are far sharper than ours: hearing and smell.

Cat NAPS Corner October 2018

HOW CATS HEAR

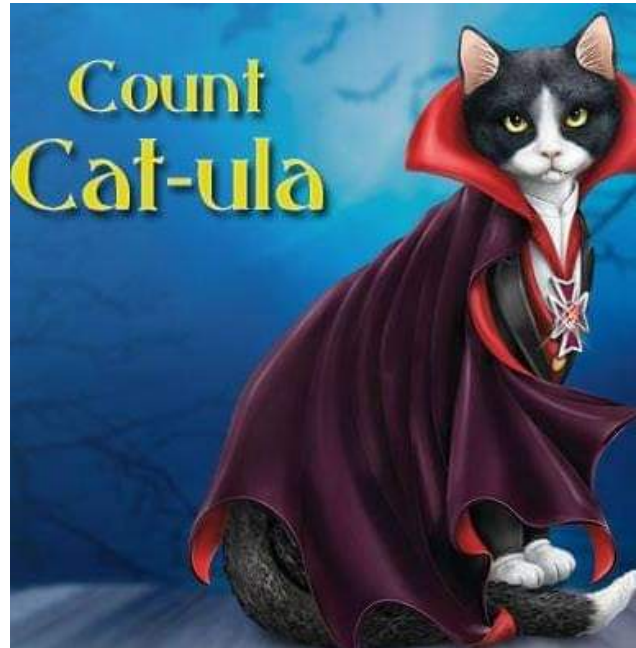
Our perception of the environment is very different from that of cats. Did you know that they can hear frequencies four to five times higher than we can? In fact, they have access to a range of ultrasounds that are inaudible to humans because of their high frequency. So, when your cat starts looking frantically in every direction for something that doesn't appear to be there, it may not be looking for something but trying to identify where a sound is coming from. It could be a bat flying outside and emitting ultrasounds to guide it on its flight.

Cats can hear a mouse walking in the grass more than 30 feet away. And we're not talking about mice wearing tap shoes and scurrying across a hardwood floor. Imagine for a second the sound that a mouse would make in grass 30 feet from where you're standing, and you'll get an idea of your cat's ability to pick up on frequencies that are far beyond our auditory capabilities. This explains why cats sometimes stare at the living room wall. Maybe they hear a squirrel walking on the roof, another cat under the window, or a neighbor playing a musical instrument in a basement... with such sensitive hearing, just imagine what else they pick up on!

Not entirely convinced yet? Get this: in addition to cats having excellent auditory faculties, their ears are also specifically designed to detect where a sound is coming from. Humans can accurately identify the

source of a sound within 20 degrees, whereas cats can identify it within 5 degrees, and determine the exact height of where it's coming from—something that we just can't do.

So, by moving their head and ears (as they do when they appear to see ghosts), cats are able to determine where a sound is coming from. This is made possible by the size and mobility of their ears, which act like those giant satellites used in spy films to overhear someone plotting a coup in the distance. Cats would make excellent secret agents if only they could speak. Imagine everything that they could tell you about your neighbors or teenagers!



*****ADOPTION SPOTLIGHT*****

As you may know, a few months ago we lost a great volunteer, our friend Bill "The Cat Guy" Sharon. Bill has saved numerous cats and kittens over the years by getting them off the streets of Pottstown. Some of you may even own one of those cats Bill saved. He also kept some of those cats for his own. Now those cats need new homes. We are happy to report that two of those cats, Big Guy and Rosie have been adopted and are enjoying life again with their new families. BondJamesBond '007' is on a trial adoption and we're hopeful that he will be staying with his new family. We have four left in our care. They have all had their shots updated and have tested negative for FIV/FelV. Two of the cats even had some dental work done. They were all previously spayed and neutered, of course, when Bill took them in. They are all good to go to new homes.

Rita is a 5-year-old calico female.

Spirit is an 8-year old long-haired grey male

Noel is a 7-year old grey tabby female

Magic is an 11-year old black female

All four cats are shy. Rita is the most out-going of the group. They are all very sweet and gentle. They like to be rubbed and will let you hold them and put them in a carrier, etc. but, they will hide when someone enters the room. No doubt they will come around over time in their new, loving homes but, much patience is needed.

Some very special volunteers have been fostering all four cats. The cats are receiving the attention they need to overcome their loss and be less shy. For more information on the cats, visit www.billthecatguy.com. Not only will you find information on these beautiful cats, but there are plans for a Memorial Garden to be built within Memorial Park in The Cat Guy's honor.

The pictures on the next two pages were taken by Bill.

On a separate note, Bill co-founded the Pottstown Pet Fair. This year's fair was held in his honor. Although it had rained several days before and the set up had to be rearranged, the sun came out that Saturday and it was an absolutely purrfect day! We were busy at the Cat NAPS booth! Huge success! Thank you and miss you, Bill!!

*****ADOPTION SPOTLIGHT UPDATE*****

****Ginny & Willow are still available to adopt. ****

****Liam is still available and French Creek Vet is sponsoring his adoption! ****

Meet Rita, Spirit, Noel and Magic!

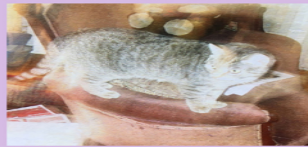
Rita



Spirit



Noel



Magic



Email notallperfectstrays@yahoo.com for an application to adopt.



Makes sense!

go to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) to make your purchases and choose Cat NAPS of Pottstown, Inc. as your charity!

Ways you can continue to help Cat NAPS of Pottstown, Inc.

Cat NAPS is part of the Redner's receipt program. Save your Redner's receipts for us! If you don't have a Redner's card, visit their Customer Service Desk! Mail your receipts to:

**Cat NAPS of Pottstown, Inc.; PO Box
453, Gilbertsville, PA 19525**

We're also part of the Smile Amazon program! If you shop on Amazon, just

Good Shop donates to Cat NAPS. Visit our website for more details.

EVENTS and WEBSITE:

L☺☺K for updated Events on our Website and on our Facebook page

www.catnapsofpottstown.org

www.facebook.com/catnapsofpottstown

Follow us on Instagram too!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 27th

11am - 2pm

Soft Pretzel Sale

Boscov's, Coventry Mall

YANKEE CANDLE SALE

Happening now until 11/4/2018

Friday, December 7th - Sunday, December 9th

POTTSTOWN PET EXPO, Coventry Mall (Pending)