



Mrs. Florence Pearce received the Scouting Award of Merit at a ceremony held Sunday, in the lower auditorium of Stouffville United Church. Ray McFadden, Baker Avenue, Stouffville, made the presentation. —Jas. Thomas.

Scouting Award of Merit

All stand for 'Flo'

STOUFFVILLE — 'Flo' swallowed a huge lump in her throat, blinked back big tears and smiled.

It was her night to cry a little and smile a lot. For Mrs. Florence Pearce had earned and received the Scouting Award of Merit. The presentation was made Sunday, in the lower auditorium of Stouffville United Church.

The audience, some young, some old, rose as one to accord her a standing ovation.

Ray McFadden, past president of district council, spoke warmly of Mrs. Pearce and her work within the Scouting organization, both prior to and since taking up residence in the South Lake Simcoe District.

Jack Pearce, her husband, was also a

pillar of strength within the Scouting fraternity.

"I don't feel I warrant this honor", she said, "I merely plodded along, trying to do my bit."

In addition to the Award, she also received a bouquet of red roses.

Born in Newcross, England, Mrs. Pearce first became involved in Scouting while in Montreal. That was 18 years ago. It's been her life ever since.

But now, 'Flo' has decided to take things a little easier — to toss the torch to younger members. She termed it 'her swan song'.

Her greatest thrill? "I've had many high moments", she said, "but the best of all was 2½ weeks ago, when I invested my grandson as a Cub."

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