

**Bell County Master Gardeners  
Tip of the Week  
By Jann Dworsky  
“I’ll Divide With You”**

My grandmother, Nannie Fannie, could grow anything. She and her neighbors traded starts of plants so that everyone could have beautiful flower gardens. I am sure there were plant nurseries in the 1950’s, but my grandmother did not know where they were or have the extra money to spend.

I cannot tell you how many times I have heard her say to a friend, “I’ll divide with you.” She would give them half of the plant they were admiring. They say times change and certainly they do, but gardeners are gardeners everywhere and we still share and say to each other, “I’ll divide with you”.

Nannie Fannie had a beautiful, large purple iris that bloomed in early spring. Years before I was born, Nannie “divided” with my Aunt Tata.

Twenty years later I was standing in the front yard of Aunt Tata’s house looking at the flower beds, the iris were blooming, and she told me that they had come from Nannie Fannie’s iris, and she said, “I’ll divide with you.” I have had those beautiful iris for most of my 40 married years and have made it a point to carry on the tradition by saying, “I’ll divide with you.”

The Master Gardener Class of 2009 and their mentors know all about my grandmother’s attitude of saying “I’ll divide with you”. We have shared everything from multiplying onion starts to cuttings of African violets. It has certainly brought back many delightful memories for me of my grandmother and gardening with her.

If you are an enthusiastic gardener, you may want to sign up for the Master Gardener class. You can share plants with others and talk gardening while you garden. Also the tremendous education received from the experts in their field is invaluable. Interested? Call the Bell County Extension Office at 933-5305 to get your application for next year. The class is limited and held once a year beginning in January to May. Come join a wonderful group of people who love “diggin’ in the dirt!”

Have any questions about gardening in Central Texas? Contact [ask.bcmga@gmail.com](mailto:ask.bcmga@gmail.com)

