Carrot and Potato Latkes

Courtesy of In Our Grandmothers' Kitchens

Ingredients:

medium baking potato
large carrots
medium onion, more or less finely chopped
eggs, beaten
tablespoons flour or matzo meal
teaspoon Kosher salt (a little more if you like)
several of grinds of your pepper mill
canola or extra-virgin olive oil as needed for frying

Instructions:

Wash and trim the potato and carrots well. Peel the potato if you want to (the skin is nutritious so you don't have to). Grate everything using either a box grater or the grater attachment of a food processor. Wrap the grated vegetables in a dishtowel or paper towel while you assemble the remaining ingredients; this will make the veggies a little less wet and a little more inclined to cohere into a pancake.

In a medium bowl, combine the potato and carrot pieces, the onion, the eggs, the flour, and the salt and pepper. In a large frying pan, heat a couple of tablespoons of oil until the oil begins to shimmer. I prefer to use a nonstick pan as this minimizes the amount of oil needed.

Scoop some of the potato-and-carrot mixture out of the bowl with a soup spoon, and flatten it with your hand. Pop the flattened mixture into the hot oil. It should hiss and bubble a bit; if not, wait before you put more pancakes into the oil.

It's just fine if your latkes are a little ragged around the edges. If they don't hold together and are hard to turn, however, you may want to add a little more flour to your batter.

Fry the pancakes a few at a time, turning each when the first side turns a golden brown. Drain the cooked latkes on paper towels; then pop them into a 250-degree oven to stay warm until their cousins are finished cooking.

Serve alone or with applesauce or cranberry sauce. Makes about 12 smallish pancakes.