

Here at last is a practical motor boat for the entire family
—a pleasure runabout that all may use and enjoy

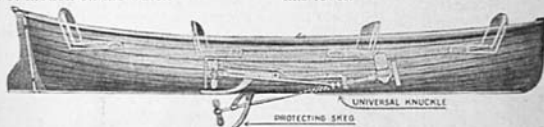


Prepare Now for the Best Vacation You Ever Had

There's no doubt about it—if you spend your vacations by the water, you need a Disappearing Propeller Boat to enable you to get the fullest enjoyment from your holidays. It is the greatest little Motor Boat afloat

A Disappearing Propeller Boat permits you to enjoy every minute of your entire vacation on lake or river and to satisfy every mood, whim or necessity. At a moment's notice you can run out to visit friends and neighbors along the shore or across the lake. You are not handicapped by distance or time in your fishing and hunting expeditions. You can settle down in the pure exhilaration of simply voyaging around in sheer delight of motion on the water.

A Disappearing Propeller Boat has many advantages over other boats. It is so easy to operate that women and children can run it at all times alone and in perfect confidence. It is so simplified, with the Dis-Pro Self Starter and Instrument Board that the entire operation of engine and boat is controlled from the center seat. You have only one lever to think of. Everything is controlled by the lifting and lowering of this lever.



Rocks and Snags Can't Injure the Propeller

It automatically disappears inside the housing (see above diagram)
the instant the protecting skag strikes an obstruction

Send for New Catalogue Today

DISAPPEARING PROPELLER BOAT CORPORATION

OF NEW YORK

354 Robinson St., North Tonawanda, N. Y.

See our Exhibit Block B No. 8 N. Y. Motor Boat Show
New York Sales and Service Station at Flushing Bridge



President's Letter • April 2022

Happy Spring. Now that the ice is gone, we think that most of you are as excited as we are to get our engines tuned up, our batteries charged and to get our boats back in the water.

We are eager to welcome everyone back to a year of more normal activities. Past Presidents Karen Boyer and Kerry Harmon have spent a great deal of time planning three UUMMTs that will take us boating on some beautiful lakes. Pack your lunch, bring your water bottles, hats and sun screen and plan to join us. Details are included in this Device.

The ACBS Boat Show will once again be held at the Gravenhurst Wharf on Saturday, July 9th. Our club will have a display set up near Boston Pizza. Ian Gibson will require some volunteers to help set up and be at the booth throughout the day to chat about Dispros. Contact Ian if you can help and be sure to drop by and say hello, if you are at the show.

We are looking forward to returning to the waters of Gloucester Pool at Port Severn for our 2022 Regatta, September 9-11th. We were last here in 2006, and we know that Holly and her staff at Severn Lodge are looking forward to our return visit. We are committed to 30 rooms, so contact Severn Lodge to book your accommodations. Also please send your DOA Registration Form and payment to Barb Dickson as soon as possible. All the details are included in this Device.

It is auction year, so bring along those items that you feel your friends and fellow members just can't live without. As usual it will be held during the Regatta on Saturday night and it's always lots of fun.

Finally a huge thank you to our fellow executive and committee members. Without your time and dedication, our club could not function.

As Robert says, "We need to get boats back on the water", so come and join us.

Robert and Ian

For latest news and updates
please regularly visit
our website at

www.disproboats.ca

Cover Image: The Disappearing Propeller Boat Company and those who designed and illustrated this ad could never have imagined that Dispros would still be operating almost 100 years later. The embellished claims, extolling the qualities of the Dispro, are very typical from that era of advertising. Along with the unique design of the Dispro itself, the many ads must have played a significant part in the sales of over 3000 boats.

It's a good thing, otherwise we wouldn't have a Dispro Owners Association today!

Ebb & Flow

Social Events, Milestones and News About DOA Members

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Robert Attfield this past January. Many of our members will be familiar with Robert from his work with portcarlingboats.com. We have extended our deepest sympathy to his widow, Lynn McGregor and their families.

Upcoming Events in 2022

We remind members that UUMMTs (**Unofficial Unauthorized Mini Misery Tours**) are unorganized and unauthorized and as such the DOA leadership is not in any way responsible for any misadventure that might accidentally occur during any such event. These "mini tours" are fun and we look forward to them each year, but please exercise caution and be safe.

2022 UUMMTs

**Mark your calendars. Let's get our boats in the water!
There are magnificent lakes to explore.**

For these three UUMMTs, please arrive early so you can launch and be ready to **leave by 10:00**. Also a great opportunity to chat with others and help with launching. The morning cruises are 2 – 2.5 hours in length and about the same for the return trip. Navigation chart with route highlighted will be handed out at the launch site. Those who don't have to rush home might like to enjoy dinner at a nearby restaurant after the cruise.

Welcome First Timers. Come prepared for all weather/lake conditions. Bring your own lunch, water and supplies to be self-sufficient. Your fellow Dispro boaters will be happy to guide and assist you.

Contact Karen Boyer – krboyer@vianet.ca or 705 645-9513 for more information. On the morning of each UUMMT, reach Karen by cell – 705 205-6166 and Kerry Harmon by cell – 705 205-9513.

UUMMT 46 – Saturday June 18 – Lake of Bays -1167 Old Highway 117, Baysville
Turn at the sign for Norway Point Church, Bigwin Golf and Lake of Bays Sailing Club. Launch at Norway Point, public ramp and parking. Cruise to Dwight Beach for lunch - picnic tables and washrooms. Explore the west shore on return.

UUMMT 47 – Monday July 18 – Six Mile Lake Provincial Park – 2024 Joe King's Road, Port Severn Senior rate for day use vehicle registration - \$12.50. Includes use of all Park amenities. Launch at Six Mile Lake Provincial Park public ramp and parking. Cruise a circle route, returning to the Park for lunch – picnic tables and washrooms. Explore a different route in the afternoon.

UUMMT 48 – Monday August 15 – 295 Steamship Bay Road – Gravenhurst
Also known as Muskoka Wharf Launch & Marina. Public launch ramp and parking. Cruise to Johnston's Park on Eileen Gowan Island for lunch – picnic tables and outhouse. Hiking trails. Explore a different route on return.

Some of these UUMMTs are planned for a weekday, as endorsed by the Members' Survey results. Launch ramps, parking areas and waterways are less congested and quieter during the week.

DOA Annual Regatta

September 9-11 – Severn Lodge, Gloucester Pool

Explore this part of the historic Trent Severn Waterway in the heart of Muskoka. Please find enclosed Severn Lodge Reservation Information Sheet and DOA Registration Form accompanying this issue. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Also, don't forget that it's Auction Time at this year's Regatta. Always lots of fun!

Nancy and Dennis Howchin



Nancy and Dennis Howchin always talk about their Dispro experiences with such enthusiasm. They are long time Dispro owners of two boats *Shore Runner* and *Bessie B* and although not members of the club from the very beginning, soon afterwards. Having both been President, attending most events and part of the Georgian Bay Misery Tour, they have been significant contributors to the Dispro Owners Association.

The Howchins first got interested in owning a Dispro while attending Toronto International Boat Show and seeing the Dispro boat, *GEM*, owned by John Black Aird. Dennis was also looking for a project and he did the restoration work, both wood

and engine, in his garage while living in Markham. When *Bessie*, a 1926 Waterford model, was ready for the water, they had a 'Coming Out Party' where everyone wore period costumes.

Their second boat, *Shore Runner*, a 1926 Dispro Special, has a rare mahogany hull and is very original.

Soon after purchasing their first boat, they attended a DOA Annual Meeting in Barrie where they enjoyed the camaraderie and jokes. They noted that the men were focused on the technical engine information and the women did the socializing.

As for being Presidents of the club, Nancy states she is interested in the history of the boats and the Disappearing Propellor Boat Company, while Dennis is interested in the engines and their maintenance. Nancy was the first female President. Dennis has prepared technical manuals which are still being used today as well as inventing a few parts for the engines. They remind us that everyone uses their diverse talents to benefit the club.

The Georgian Bay Misery Tours bring back lots of wonderful memories. One boat ride in particular comes to mind. The first day out, their boat with four adults aboard, was loaded with food and supplies for two weeks when they encountered very, very rough waters. It is scary when you see the propeller of the boat ahead when it goes up on the wave.

Both Nancy and Denis speak with enthusiasm about the DOA Club and many of its members. Through the club, they met Ann and Marty, from the US, who have become lifelong friends. They very much enjoy UUMMTs and love the Device newsletter. One UUMMT they particularly remember was in 2017 when we celebrated Canada's 150th Birthday in Campbellford and on the Trent Waterway.

Their advice for the future of the club is to keep puttering with these boats and keep doing all the great things the club offers.

Mary Storey

Where's My Old Dispro?

Once upon a time I owned a "Dippy". I bought it for \$75 in 1975, restored it between 1975 and 1978 (approx.), and sold it to a man from the London area in 1978. I did attend a Dippy gathering during that time, where we attendees were presented with a charred piece of wood from the original factory. My memory fails me for further details.

It is not listed in the Registry and I would like to find out what happened to it. Can the membership help me?

In 1978, due to a family emergency, I sold the Dippy and trailer. We sold the house in Cambridge, bought a sailboat in Bronte and left Canada via Welland on September 15, the anniversary date of our arrival in Toronto in 1956.



My wife and two of my daughters made up the crew. We went via Ashtabula, Ohio, down the Ohio, Mississippi and the Atchafalaya to Port Isobel, Texas. After a year we sailed via the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf Stream to where I was born and grew up – Bermuda. I drew a pall, dear reader, over the next 17 years, sufficient to say that I have a good knowledge of many of the Caribbean ports.

I caught up with my two daughters in Florida in 2006, where my diagnosis was a leaky mitral valve. Back in Cambridge to be near my other children and grandchildren and the Mississauga hospital where medical science took out some things and added some things, so that the cardiologist said last month that my heart was in better shape than his.

With that short history I am including a photo of the Dippy as it was when it was launched in 1978. Recently I became a member of the DOA and met Paul Dodington.

He looked at the photo I had sent and he told me it was an early style Greavette with a wide sheer plank giving a very flat bridge deck. The aluminum tiller bar was used from 1937 to 1947. My information was that the hull was 4-45, stencilled on the back of the front seat. I added a registration number on both sides of the bow – 22E5573 – with three inch plastic letters. The engine had a copper water jacket. There was no starting mechanism and speed was controlled by a timing lever mounted on the rear of the engine.

Paul does not have the boat listed on the register. If there is anyone out there with any information, I would really appreciate hearing from them.

J.R. Murphie
401-400 Champlain Blvd.
Cambridge, ON N1R 7J6

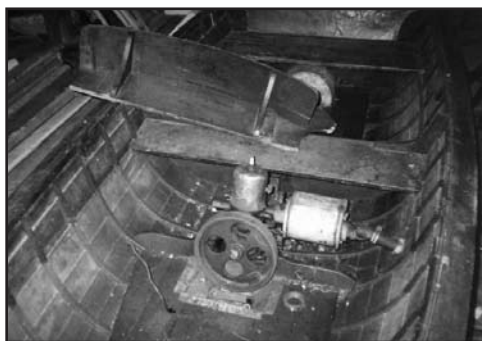
Phone: 519-594-0029
Email: onion88maja@outlook.com

Charm

**1919 Disappearing Propeller Boat – Model “Uncle Sam”
Length 18'-6" • Engine Kingfisher 2½ HP • Hull Number 1930**

This is the 30th boat built in 1919 and is the oldest running example of an Uncle Sam model known to exist.

This boat was originally purchased in 1919 by R. H. Dowler of London Ontario. The Dowler family were well known Clouthiers in that City. The boat was delivered from the factory in Port Carling by railcar to the rail terminal in Point au Baril. From this point the boat was motored to the family cottage on Georgian Bay at the Shawanaga Indian Reserve where it remained until 1995.



Condition as found in the boathouse.



Removal down a ramp of old wooden ladders.

It was listed for sale in the Dispro Trader and was subsequently purchased and removed from its boathouse after more than 40 years since it had been last used. In 1954 Hurricane Hazel had swept through Ontario and destroyed the floating boat house. The boat was sunk boats including a Greavette and a Ditchburn. Lumber from the destroyed cottages was retrieved floating in the bay and used to construct a new “dry” boat house some distance from the water edge. The Dispro remained safe and dry there until 1995. Also located on the second floor of the boat house were the original wicker picnic basket and chamber pot (for the children) that were used during island picnics.

The week when the boat was to be removed from the cottage just happened to be at a time when there were considerable protests and shootings between Indigenous groups and the Provincial Police. Never being deterred we pressed forward to go through the Reserve to the summer encampment area where the boat was put onto a trailer. Once back on the highway calls were made to family that

we were in the clear and headed home.

The last remaining family member; Doreen Dowler was instrumental in relating the family ownership and use of the boat to the present owner until her passing in October 1996. She was asked if the boat had a name. Her response was unexpected. “No, it did not have a name, after all why would you name your lawnmower”. Her point was that at the time a Dispro was considered to be a utilitarian vessel akin to a wheelbarrow

for hauling and toting family and provisions to the water access cottage. The boat was not kept in high reverence, contrary to the manner we hold today.

The restoration by the owner took place over a 12 month period and was done in a manner to preserve the original wood and character of the boat. After its restoration it requires very little maintenance and is stored ready for use at the owners storage facility.

Charm was relaunched for its second life in July 1997 and is enjoyed on the Rideau Lakes system. Its home port is Portland, Ontario on Big Rideau Lake.

Reflecting on the years of *Charm*'s ownership it can be said that the boat owns you like a member of the family. It deserves the best of care, nurturing and providing you feed it well, it won't let you down far from home.

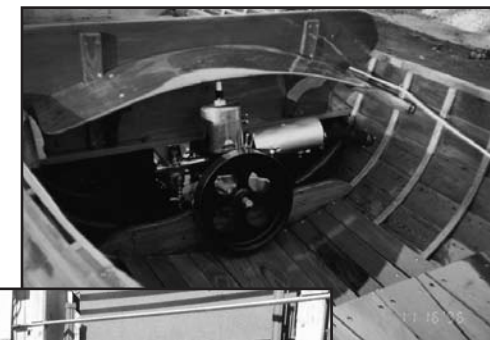
Michael Krzyzanowski



Floating in the bay at the original cottage.



Running at Mahogany Harbour in Manotick in its as-found condition.



In restored condition, as it still looks today.



Members' Survey 2021—Summary of 21 Responses

Thank you to each member for sharing your thoughtful suggestions. The Executive has been discussing the survey responses and Future Planning is now a permanent agenda item. Going forward it is the intent, whenever possible, to optimize the DOA's strengths, initiate and promote opportunities, mitigate weaknesses and be proactive to reduce threats (SWOT). There is much enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring DOA's vitality and longevity.

Please continue to share your ideas with project leaders: **Ian Gibson and Karen Boyer**

Boats:

1. Use varied from almost every evening to mostly at DOA events.
2. Most replied that their boat was in running condition. Some were under renovation in storage or need work.
3. Lots of capable hands in the group as every repair from varnishing, electrical, mechanical projects were mentioned.
4. Help for all aspects of Dispro maintenance was sought/purchased. Paul Dodington, Mike Windsor, John Thompson and Dwight Boyd were specifically mentioned as being helpful and skilled.
5. Several offered that they would be willing to act as a mentor or would welcome such advice.

DOA:

6. Every aspect of DOA was mentioned as being enjoyable – events, the Device, communication with other owners, exploring waterways and especially the social opportunities for boating, travel and discovery in a group setting that fosters camaraderie and friendship.
7. Suggestions to improve:
 - a. Website – more pictures. Recently improved. Easy to read & maneuver. Several said they don't use it.
 - b. Newsletter – Multiple kudos to Paul Jenner. Informative & good reading. Request for more articles/stories geared toward female members.
 - c. UUMMTs – Suggested waterways to explore: Magnetawan River, Manitowagan Lake, Nottawasaga River, Stoney/Clear Lake, Rideau River, Trent River, North fishing camps, Bruce Peninsula, Erie Canal. Keep it less organized.
 - d. Regatta – Excellent, highlight of the year. Return to 2+ years at suitable locations. Suggested resorts: Fern Resort, Rideau.
8. Midweek events were highly welcomed. A few were concerned that their children/grandchildren wouldn't be able to participate.
9. Raising the profile of DOA. This would be primarily to attract new members, but also as a means to reach out to other organizations, who have common interests and goals with the intent to collaborate and co-sponsor common activities and events. Suggestions include: increase social media; communicate with local press prior to a group outing; contact lake associations for input on possible UUMMTs; participate in boat shows; be part of local festivals; articles in media in boating

country; invite curious dock spectators and interested acquaintances for a dippy experience.

10. Organizations that are suggested as potential partners – Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations; Trent-Severn Antique & Classic Boat Association; ACBS; museums.
11. Most indicated that no younger family member were interested in their Dispro. Family memberships were suggested. Have a Family Day.
12. Several kudos to DOA leadership. Workshops are beneficial. Hold an occasional event via Zoom. Set up E-Transfer of membership fees. More website/You Tube tech videos. Periodic e-mail blasts to keep members informed.
13. Other thoughts:
 - a. Safety rules are becoming bureaucratic and a little excessive. Don't get any more corporate than we are now.
 - b. Handy to have a list of essential spare bits & pieces to have on hand, emergency fixes and preventative maintenance tips.
 - c. Spend some of the surplus.
 - d. Have a You Tube channel that holds videos on regattas, history, how to repair an original or build if you are going electric. If the channel was successful (1000 subscribers and 10,000 views) then You Tube would pay you. Potential revenue source.
 - e. If someone wants to build a boat there are a couple of problems. One is finding a set of plans and suggested building instructions; the other is finding the components such as engine and device.
 - f. Conversion to electric drive is a way of getting new members to join by bringing the Dippy into the world of electric propulsion.



On Friday March 4, 28 Dispro Owners from in and around the Muskoka area gathered for an evening of dinner and conversation at the Bracebridge Barrelhouse. This was the 3rd time since November that some or all the group had got together. No worries of boats not running and having to be towed, the biggest challenge that night was what entrée to order.

It was a wonderful evening and so nice to get out of hibernation and see everyone. Thank you to the organizers. We just need to find a dry land name for us vs UUMMT.

Sheila Burk

A Mystery Photo — From the DOA Archives

This photo, taken in 1991, is in Ontario. Can you guess where it is? The DOA Regatta for September 2022 is in the vicinity. Perhaps you will see this location as we are cruising at the Regatta

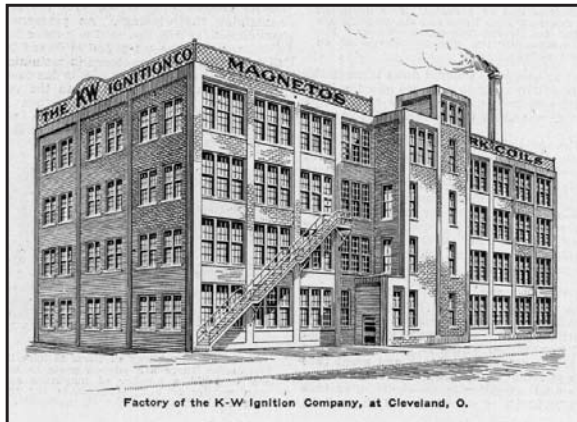


The answer will be published in the next issue.

Mary Storey

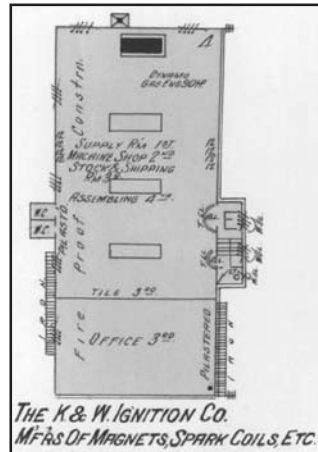
Anyone Need a Coil?

Paul Gockel sent me this contemporary artist's sketch of the K-W Ignition Factory in Cleveland and it "sparked" my interest (pardon the pun). I went on an internet search for more information and found among other things, a Fire Insurance Map from 1912 which indicated it's exact location and a basic floor plan. Unfortunately it's all gone now but if you do need a coil, rebuilt models are available from various sources.



Factory of the K-W Ignition Company, at Cleveland, O.

Paul Jenner



Dispro Adventures — Equipment For Outings

*A comprehensive checklist for Dispro outings –
useful for both seasoned adventurers and new inexperienced members*

Checklist For Successful Outing:

- Fully Charged 12 Volt Battery
- Tools To Have On Board-See List of Items
- Spare Parts – See List of Items
- Tank of Fresh Mixed Gas
- Spare Container with 4-5 litres of Fresh Mixed Gas

Bring From House:

- Beach Towels, Lap Blanket
- Change of Dry Clothes Including Undies & Socks
- Water Bottles, Snacks / lunch
- Cell Phone - Fully Charged in Waterproof Container & Charger
- Extra Set of Vehicle Keys
- Sun Screen & Lip Balm & Sun Glasses
- Wallet / Purse - \$\$ & I.D.
- Hat with Chin Strap & Long Sleeve Shirt
- Water / Wind Proof Jacket & Pants / Gloves
- DOA Name Badges
- Trailer Lock & Key
- Navigation Chart

Keep In Dippy:

- Waterproof Container for Storing On-Board Items
- Life Jackets / PFDs
- Navigation Charts & Compass
- Tools To Have On Board-See List of Items
- Flashlight / Whistle / Bailing Bucket, Throw Line – Required by Regulation
- Boater Operator's Licence
- Boat Ignition Key on Floating Ring & Spare Key
- Water Shoes
- Oars / Paddles
- Notepad & Pencil
- Seat Cushions
- First Aid Kit

Tools To Have On Board: (Specific to the Boat)

- Volt – Ohm meter
- Spark Plug Wrench
- Combination Wrenches to Fit All Fasteners (Nuts & Bolts)
- Screw Drivers to Fit All Fasteners

- Allen Wrenches to Fit All Fasteners
- Any Specialized Tools to Fit Specialized Fasteners (eg. Packing Adjusting Tool)
- Pliers
- Side Cutters
- Swiss Army Knife / Multi Tool

Trailerling & Loading Routine:

- Trailer Lights Plugged In
- Chains Attached to Vehicle
- 3rd Wheel Up
- Rear Flag for Visibility
- Propeller Raised & Brake Set
- Gas Off
- Seat Cushions – Secured or In Vehicle
- Flags Down / Off
- Bow & Stern Lines Secured
- Seat Backs & Engine Cover Secured or Moved to Vehicle
- Trailer Hitch Closed, Latched & Locked
- Fenders Secured
- Trailer Straps Secured

Launching Routine:

- Unplug Trailer Lights
- Turn On Fuel
- Trailer Straps Off
- Install Drain Plug (If Fitted)
- Lines Ready
- Fenders Out

Spare Parts: (Specific to the Boat)

- Spark Plug(s)
- Fuses
- Light Bulb(s)
- Starter Bendix
- Fuel Filter
- Miller Timer
- Pick-Up
- Control Relay
- Ignition Relay

Boating First Aid Kit:

- Antiseptic Cream
- Sterile Dressings & Non Pointed Scissors
- Waterproof Adhesive Tape & Band Aids
- Burn Ointment

Boyer, Harmon & Storey

Tempting Culinary Treats from: The Greatest Little Cookbook: A Boatload of Recipes

Produced by the Ladies Auxilliary of the Dispro Owners Association, 1996

Dippy Cream Delight

Recipe by Marg Harden

4 oz cream cheese	1 1/2 cups whipping cream
1/4 cup sugar	3/4 cup peanut brittle, finely chopped,
1/4 cup Amaretto liqueur	toasted almonds or coconut finely chopped
(or fruit liqueur or extra strong coffee)	1 Tbsp grated lemon or orange peel

Whip cream cheese with sugar until light. Beat in liqueur. Whip cream until light. Fold into cream cheese base. Gently fold in finely chopped peanut brittle. Pipe or spoon mixture into 8 gold or silver foil large muffin cups. Freeze 2 hours or until frozen. Remove from freezer 5 minutes before serving. Sprinkle with orange or lemon peel. This dessert can be frozen for 2 – 4 weeks

Cheesy Potato Bake

Recipe by Betty Dymont

12 tbsps butter	1 1/2 cups (6 oz) Swiss cheese, shredded
3/4 cup onion, finely chopped	3 eggs, beaten
3 tbsps each red & green pepper,	1 tsp salt
finely chopped	1/4 tsp pepper
1 cup milk	Additional shredded Swiss cheese
1 1/2 lbs. all purpose potatoes, peeled	

Melt butter in medium saucepan. Sauté onion, green and red peppers until vegetables are tender; set aside. Pour milk into large bowl. Shred potatoes into milk. Stir in 11/2 cups Swiss cheese, eggs, sautéed vegetables, salt and pepper. Pour potato mixture into greased 8" square baking dish. Sprinkle additional shredded Swiss cheese on top. Bake in preheated 350 F oven 45 to 50 minutes or until done. Cut into squares to serve.

Karen Boyer



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