

# Bears to Take Historic Dive

Bernarr Macfadden, (1868-1955), founder of the

Coney Island Polar Bear Club, (1904) is virtually

unknown today, however his club is alive and thriving as its members swim in the icy cold Atlantic from October through April.

On November 13 from noon to 4 p.m., the current president of the club, Louie Scarcella will don a 1943 vintage US Navy Mark V Diving Suit and take a historic dive into the frigid Atlantic at Coney Island Beach at West 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Scarcella has said of the Polar Bear Club, "It's a celebration of life. When you are in the water you know you are alive. It is also great for the mind and body. We also believe it strengthens the immune system. We have some of the greatest and most interesting people in the club."

The Polar Bear Club is also taking applications for Coney Island Lifeguards. If you are interested you may contact Scarcella at 718-356-7741.



**Polar Bear Louis Scarcella**



**The famed Coney Island Polar Bear Club, the oldest winter bathing organization in the United States.**