BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3 April 11, 2001

> PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 34 DATED: April 2, 2001 (To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001, and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001) Rule 424(b)(3) File No. 333-52902

> > \$9,015,893,162 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$40,000,000Floating Rate Notes []Book Entry Notes [x]Original Issue Date: 4/20/2001Fixed Rate Notes [x]Certificated Notes []Maturity Date: 4/20/2016CUSIP#: 073928TR4Option to Extend Maturity:No[x]Yes[]Final Maturity Date:

Redeemable On	Redemption Price(s)	Optional Repayment Date(s)	Optional Repayment Price(s)
*	N/A	N/A	N/A

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate: 7.00%

Interest Payment Dates: **

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis:Maximum Interest Rate:N/A[] Commercial Paper RateMinimum Interest Rate:N/A[] Federal Funds RateInterest Reset Date(s):[] Treasury RateInterest Reset Period:[] LIBOR ReutersInterest Payment Date(s):[] LIBOR TelerateInterest Payment Date(s):[] OMT RateInterest Payment Period:

Index Maturity:

Spread (plus or minus):

- * Commencing April 20, 2004 and on the interest payment dates thereafter until Maturity, the Notes may be called in whole at par at the option of the Company on eight calendar days notice.
- ** Commencing May 20, 2001 and on the 20th of each month thereafter until Maturity or until the Notes are called.

The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.