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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC

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Form 424B3

March 30, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 32 Rule 424(b)(3) File No. 333-52902 DATED: March 29, 2001 (To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001, and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001) \$9,015,893,162 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC. MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B Principal Amount: \$10,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x] Original Issue Date: 03/30/2001 Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes [] Maturity Date: 3/28/2002 CUSIP#: 073928TP8 Option to Extend Maturity: No [x] Yes [] Final Maturity Date: Redeemable On Price(s) Date(s) Price(s) Price(s) N/A N/A N/A N/A Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes: _____ Interest Rate: Interest Payment Dates: Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes: Interest Rate Basis: Maximum Interest Rate: N/A [] Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate: N/A [x] Federal Funds Rate Interest Reset Date(s): Daily [] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Daily [] LIBOR Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): * [] LIBOR Telerate [] Prime Rate [] CMT Rate Initial Interest Rate: 5.555% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly Index Maturity: N/A

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* On the 28th of June, September, December and at Maturity.

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