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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
Form DEFR14A  
March 13, 2001

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant (X)  
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant ( )

Check the appropriate box:

- ( ) Preliminary Proxy Statement
- ( ) Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- (X) Definitive Revised Proxy Statement
- ( ) Definitive Additional Materials
- ( ) Soliciting Material Under rule 14a-12

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- (X) No fee required.
- ( ) Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.
  - 1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
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or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.

- 1) Amount previously paid:
- 2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- 3) Filing Party:
- 4) Date Filed:

THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
 245 PARK AVENUE  
 NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10167  
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 SUPPLEMENT TO PROXY STATEMENT  
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 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
 MARCH 29, 2001  
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This Supplement to the Proxy Statement clarifies the line graph set forth under the caption "PERFORMANCE GRAPH - COMPARISON OF FIVE-YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN" in the Proxy Statement of The Bear Stearns Companies Inc. dated March 2, 2001. The revised Performance Graph is set forth below.

March 13, 2001

By order of the Board of Directors  
 Kenneth L. Edlow,  
 Secretary

PERFORMANCE GRAPH

The following performance graph compares the performance of an investment in the Company's Common Stock over the last five fiscal years with the S&P 500 Index, the S&P Financial Diversified Index and its Peer Group. The entities included in the Company's current peer group (the "Peer Group") consist of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., Morgan Stanley, Dean Witter & Co., Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc. The performance graph assumes the value of the investment in the Company's Common Stock and each index was \$100 on November 30, 1995, and that all dividends have been reinvested. There can be no assurance that the Company's future stock performance will correlate with past stock performance.

COMPARISON OF FIVE-YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN

[Data below represents line chart in the printed piece]

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Assumes \$100 invested on November 30, 1995 in the Company's Common Stock; S&P 500 Index; S&P Financial Diversified Index; the New Peer Group and the Old Peer Group and that all dividends have been reinvested.

1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
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The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.	\$100.00	\$152.54	\$258.85	\$278.42	\$312.64	\$
New Peer Group (1)	100.00	138.51	234.11	294.18	431.12	
Old Peer Group (2)	100.00	136.67	234.10	293.99	419.60	
S&P Financial Diversified Index	100.00	137.35	192.07	270.94	341.25	
S&P 500 Index	100.00	126.18	159.24	198.72	236.12	

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(1) Peer Group calculation assumes conversion of Morgan Stanley Group Inc. shares into newly formed company, Morgan Stanley, Dean Witter & Co., in June 1997. In fiscal year 2000, Goldman Sachs Group Inc. was added to the peer group. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. is not included in results for 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999. The peer group no longer includes Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. and Paine Webber Group Inc. due to their mergers with Credit Suisse Group and UBS AG, respectively, and the resulting unavailability of financial information on a comparative basis.

(2) Peer Group calculation assumes conversion of Morgan Stanley Group Inc. shares into newly formed company, Morgan Stanley, Dean Witter & Co., in June 1997. Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc.'s performance is not included in results for 1995. Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. and Paine Webber Group Inc are not included in results for 2000 due to their mergers with Credit Suisse Group and UBS AG, respectively, and the resulting unavailability of financial information on a comparative basis.