AS FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ON AUGUST 21, 2001 REGISTRATION NO. 333-01287 _____ SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT Т0 FORM S-8 **REGISTRATION STATEMENT** UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 DONEGAL GROUP INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) 23-2324711 Delaware -----(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) incorporation or organization) 1195 River Road Marietta, Pennsylvania 17547 ------(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code) DONEGAL GROUP INC. 1996 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN (Full title of plan) Donald H. Nikolaus President and Chief Executive Officer Donegal Group Inc. 1195 River Road Marietta, PA 17547 (Name and address of agent for service) (888) 877-0600 -----(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service) Copy to: Kathleen M. Shay, Esquire Duane Morris 4200 One Liberty Place Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-7396 (215) 979-1000 DEREGISTRATION OF SECURITIES

Pursuant to a Form S-8 Registration Statement (File No. 333-01287) filed with the SEC on February 28, 1996, Donegal Group Inc. registered 100,000 shares of its previously authorized common stock to be reserved for issuance under the Donegal Group 1996 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. The number of shares reserved for issuance under the plan and registered under Registration Statement No. 333-01287 were increased to 116,464 shares pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933 by reason of a four-for-three stock split, effected in the form of a 33 1/3% stock dividend, paid on Donegal Group's common stock in July 1997 and were increased to 135,027 shares pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933 by reason of a four-for-three stock split, effected in the form of a 33 1/3% stock dividend, paid on Donegal Group's common stock in June 1998. As of April 19, 2001, a total of 112,007 shares of common stock had been sold under the plan and 50,866 shares of common stock remained available for issuance under the plan.

Effective as of the close of business on April 19, 2001, Donegal Group, pursuant to stockholder approval, (i) reclassified its previously authorized common stock into Class B common stock, (ii) effected a reverse stock split, as the result of which each three shares of previously authorized common stock were converted into one share of Class B common stock, (iii) authorized 30,000,000 shares of a new class of common stock with one-tenth of a vote per share designated as Class A common stock and (iv) declared a dividend of two shares of Class A common stock to be paid on each share of the Class B common stock outstanding at the close of business on April 19, 2001.

In connection with the reverse stock split and the stock dividend, the plan was adjusted so that two-thirds of the shares that remained purchasable under the plan for the subscription period ending June 30, 2001 were shares of Class A common stock and one-third of the shares were shares of Class B common stock. The plan terminated on June 30, 2001. The 16,955 shares of Class B common stock purchasable under the plan for the subscription period ending June 30, 2001 that resulted from the reclassification and the reverse split of the previously authorized common stock are registered under the Securities Act of 1933 pursuant to Registration Statement No. 333-01287, to which this Post-Effective Amendment relates. For the subscription period ending June 30, 2001, a total of 3,758 shares of Class B common stock were sold under the plan.

Pursuant to the undertakings included in Item 9 of the Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed with the SEC on February 28, 1996 and as required by Item 512 of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act of 1933, Donegal Group hereby deregisters and removes from registration the 13,197 shares registered under Registration Statement No. 333-01287 that remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Post-Effective Amendment to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Marietta, Pennsylvania on August 20, 2001.

DONEGAL GROUP INC.

By:/s/ Donald H. Nikolaus Donald H. Nikolaus, President and Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Post-Effective Amendment to the Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

| Signature | Title | Date |
|--|--|-----------------|
| /s/ Donald H. Nikolaus Donald H. Nikolaus | President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director (principal executive officer) | August 20, 2001 |
| /s/ Ralph G. Spontak Ralph G. Spontak | Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary (principal financial and accounting officer) | August 20, 2001 |
| * | Director | August 20, 2001 |
| C. Edwin Ireland | | |
| * | Director | August 20, 2001 |
| Patricia A. Gilmartin | | |
| * | Director | August 20, 2001 |
| Philip H. Glatfelter, II | | |

| Signature | Title | Date |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| * R. Richard Sherbahn | Director | August 20, 2001 |
| Thomas J. Finley, Jr. | Director | August, 2001 |
| Robert S. Bolinger | Director | August, 2001 |
| John J. Lyons | Director | August <u></u> , 2001 |

By: /s/ Ralph G. Spontak Ralph G. Spontak, as attorney in fact

*Signed pursuant to power of attorney

| Exhibit Number | Description of Exhibit | Reference |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| | | |
| 24 | Powers of Attorney | * |

* Such exhibit is hereby incorporated by reference to the like-described exhibit in Donegal Group's Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 333-01287, as filed with the SEC on February 28, 1996.