

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO  
 Form 4  
 August 08, 2012

**FORM 4**

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 BALOUSEK JOHN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO  
 [CENT]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 1340 TREAT BLVD., STE. 600  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 08/06/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Class A Common Stock	08/06/2012		M		30,582	A	\$ 6.54
Class A Common Stock	08/06/2012		F <sup>(1)</sup>		18,299	D	\$ 10.93
Class A Common Stock	08/06/2012		S		3,864	D	\$ 11
Class A Common	08/07/2012		S <sup>(2)</sup>		8,419	D	\$ 10.8885

Stock

Common  
Stock

55,160 D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 6.54	08/06/2012		M	30,582	<sup>(3)</sup> 08/09/2012	Class A Common Stock	30,582

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BALOUSEK JOHN 1340 TREAT BLVD., STE. 600 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597	X			

## Signatures

/s/ John Balousek 08/08/2012

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

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- (1) Shares withheld by the Issuer in payment of the aggregate option exercise price incurred upon the above-reported exercise of options. The amount of shares withheld is based on the respective average of the high and low sales prices on the date of exercise.  
  
The range of prices for the shares of Class A Common Stock is from \$10.86 to \$10.92. Mr. Balousek undertakes that he will provide,
- (2) upon request by the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, full information regarding the number of securities sold at each separate price.
- (3) One-third of the total options granted became exercisable at each of 6 months, 18 months and 30 months after February 9, 2009, the date of the grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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