

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO  
Form 4  
August 20, 2014

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
Varlas Lori A.

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)  
C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY, 1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
08/18/2014

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
SVP, CFO and Secretary

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	Price			
Units	08/18/2014		I		1,557.4923 <u>(1)</u>	\$ 5.9857	0	I	By 401(k) Plan
Class A Common Stock	08/19/2014		M	(2)	11,500	\$ 6.43	62,169	D	
Class A Common Stock	08/19/2014		F	(3)	9,526	\$ 8.865	52,643	D	

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

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(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
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 6.43	08/19/2014		M	11,500	<sup>(4)</sup> 03/31/2019	Class A Common Stock	11,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
Varlas Lori A. C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY 1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597	Director 10% Owner Officer SVP, CFO and Secretary Other

## Signatures

/s/ Lori A. 08/20/2014  
Varlas  
\*\*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).
- (1) The units represent interests in the CENTA Stock Fund in the Issuer's 401(k) Plan, which consist of shares of CENTA stock and cash.
- (2) Options exercised through sales plan pursuant to Rule 10b-5-1(c)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (3) Shares withheld by the Issuer in payment of the aggregate option exercise price and withholding tax liability 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 price on the date of exercise.

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- (4) On August 12, 2013, the Reporting Person was granted an option to purchase 50,000 shares of Class A Common Stock of the Issuer. The option vests in four equal annual installments beginning March 31, 2014.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.