

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO
 Form 4
 December 14, 2015

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 *
 SPRINGER MARY BETH

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)
 12/10/2015

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 | 12/10/2015 | | M | | 22,397 | A | \$ 8.93 | 29,440 | I | By Trust (1) |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/10/2015 | | F(2) | | 12,377 | D | \$ 16.16 | 17,063 | I | By Trust (1) |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/10/2015 | | S | | 7,043 | D | \$ 16.2463 (3) | 10,020 | I | By Trust (1) |

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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) | \$ 8.93 | 12/10/2015 | | M | 22,397 (4) | (5) 08/11/2016 | Class A Common Stock | 22,397 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SPRINGER MARY BETH C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY 1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ JoAnn Jonte as Attorney-in-Fact for Mary Beth Springer
12/14/2015

__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 Reporting Person transferred her shares of the Company's Class A Common Stock to the P. Rosenblum & M. Beth Springer TTEE Paul Rosenblum & Mary Beth Springer Revocable Trust Dated 10/28/2005.
- (2) 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 average of the high and low sales prices on the date of exercise.
- (3) The range of prices for the shares of Class A Common Stock is from \$15.88 to \$16.53. The reporting person undertakes that she will provide, upon request by the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, full information regarding the number of securities

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sold at each separate price.

- (4) Stock Options granted under the Company's 2003 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.
- (5) One-third of the total options granted became exercisable at each of 6 months, 18 months and 30 months after February 11, 2013, the date of 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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