

Varlas Lori A.
Form 4
August 20, 2012

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)

____ Director
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
SVP, CFO and Secretary

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
08/16/2012

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Code | V | Amount or (D) Price | | |
| Units | 08/16/2012 | | I | | 1,263.8679 (1) | D | \$ 7.2962 |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | 43,604 | D | |

By
401(k)
Plan

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

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

/s/ Lori A. Varlas 08/20/2012
 **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).
- (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.
 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.