CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO

Form 4

December 14, 2015

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

OMB

Check this box if no longer subject to

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

3235-0287 Number: January 31, Expires:

2005

OMB APPROVAL

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SPRINGER MARY BETH

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO [CENT]

(Check all applicable)

(Middle)

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

12/10/2015

_X__ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title

C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY, 1340 TREAT

BOULEVARD, SUITE 600

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

(Street)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tab | le I - Non- | Derivative | Secui | rities Acquir | ed, Disposed of, | or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|---------|---------------|--|--|---|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securit oper Dispos (Instr. 3, 4 | ed of (| | 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) |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/10/2015 | | M | 22,397 | A | \$ 8.93 | 29,440 | I | By Trust |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/10/2015 | | F(2) | 12,377 | D | \$ 16.16 | 17,063 | I | By Trust |
| Class A Common Stock | 12/10/2015 | | S | 7,043 | D | \$ 16.2463 | 10,020 | I | By Trust |

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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 Conversion or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of Derivative Security | | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of or 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) | |
|---|---------|---|---|--|--|--|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 8.93 | 12/10/2015 | | M | 22,397 (4) | <u>(5)</u> | 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



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

Reporting Owners 2

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sold at each separate price.

- (4) Stock Options granted under the Company's 2003 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.
- 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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