

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO  
Form 4  
December 24, 2013

# 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 \*  
Reed Michael 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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/20/2013

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Executive Vice President

1340 TREAT  
BOULEVARD, SUITE 600

(Street)

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

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

(City) (State) (Zip)

### 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   | Amount   | (A) or (D)                        | Price |
| Class A Common Stock            | 12/20/2013                           |  | M                              | 20,000  | A   | \$ 4.6   | 73,550                            | D     |
| Class A Common Stock            | 12/20/2013                           |  | F <sup>(1)</sup>               | 15,559  | D   | \$ 6.59  | 57,991                            | D     |
| Class A Common Stock            | 12/23/2013                           |  | M                              | 20,000  | A   | \$ 4.6   | 77,991                            | D     |
| Class A Common Stock            | 12/23/2013                           |  | F <sup>(1)</sup>               | 15,272  | D   | \$   | 62,719                            | D     |

Common  
Stock

6.78

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)                | \$ 4.6   | 12/20/2013                           |  | M                              | 20,000  | <sup>(2)</sup> 03/04/2014                                | Class A Common Stock  | 20,000                        |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy)                | \$ 4.6   | 12/23/2013                           |  | M                              | 20,000  | <sup>(2)</sup> 03/04/2014                                | Class A Common Stock  | 20,000                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |                          |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |
| Reed Michael A<br>1340 TREAT BOULEVARD<br>SUITE 600<br>WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 |               |           | Executive Vice President |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Michael A.  
Reed

12/24/2013

\*\*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).

Shares withheld by the Issuer in payment of the aggregate option exercise price and withholding tax liability incurred upon the  
(1) 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.

On March 4, 2008, the reporting person was granted an option to purchase 120,000 shares of Class A Common Stock of the Issuer. The  
(2) option vested in five equal annual installments beginning March 4, 2009. Twenty percent of the option vested based on the satisfaction of certain annual performance targets for each of the fiscal years ending September 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

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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