

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO  
Form 4  
March 30, 2009

**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 \*  
**BROWN WILLIAM E**

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)  
**1340 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 600**  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**11/24/2008**

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Chairman and CEO**

**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            | 11/24/2008                           |                                                    | G                              | V                                                                 | 141,100<br>(1)                                                                                | D                                                        | \$ 0 3,222,784                                        |
| Class A Common Stock            | 11/24/2008                           |                                                    | G                              | V                                                                 | 124,500<br>(1)                                                                                | A                                                        | \$ 0 124,500                                          |
| Class A Common Stock            | 03/26/2009                           |                                                    | A                              |                                                                   | 27,706<br>(2)                                                                                 | A                                                        | \$ 0 3,250,490                                        |
| Class A Common                  | 03/26/2009                           |                                                    | F                              |                                                                   | 9,905 (3)                                                                                     | D                                                        | \$ 7.76 3,240,585                                     |

By Irrevocable Trusts

Stock

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    | 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 |
| BROWN WILLIAM E<br>1340 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 600<br>WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | X             | X         | Chairman and CEO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Stuart W. Booth, as attorney-in-fact for William E. Brown

03/30/2009

\*\*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).

- On November 24, 2008, the Reporting Person contributed a total aggregate amount of 124,500 shares of Class A Common Stock of the Issuer for the benefit of various family Irrevocable Trusts. These securities are owned directly by each of the Irrevocable Trusts and
- (1) indirectly by the Reporting Person and his spouse as co-trustees of the Irrevocable Trusts. The Reporting Person and his spouse, as co-trustees, have and share investment control over the securities held by each of the Irrevocable Trusts but disclaim beneficial ownership of the reported securities held by the Irrevocable Trusts except to the extent of his and his wife's pecuniary interest therein.
  - (2) Represents bonus in respect of fiscal year 2008 payable in fully vested shares of Class A Common Stock.

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- (3) Shares delivered by the Reporting Person in payment of the withholding tax liability. The amount of shares withheld is based on the closing price of CENTA on March 26, 2009.

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.