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

| OMB APPRO | VAL |
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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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| | pe Response | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|--------|--|-----------------------|---|---|-----------------------|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BALOUSEK JOHN | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO [CENT] | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X_Director 10% Owner | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1340 TREAT BLVD., STE. 600 | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/13/2006 | | | | | | | - | Officer (g | ve title below) | Ot | her (specify bel | ow) |
| (Street) | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) X_ 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 Acqu | | | | | | | s Acquir | lired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Ye | | | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if | | Date, if | (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acc (A) or Disposed (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | Owned Follo Transaction(s (Instr. 3 and | | / | | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | | | Cod | | Amount (D) | (Ď) | Price | | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common | Stock | | 02/13/2006 | | | | F | A ; | 311 A | 4 | \$ 0 3 | ,384 | | | D | |
| | | | | | | | | form d | isplays a | curre | ently val | id OMB co | ntrol num | ber. | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 4. Transac Code | ts, ca | 5. Num of Derivat Securit Acquir (A) or Dispose of (D) (Instr. 3 | rants ber tive ies ed | form d uired, Disp , options, co 6. Date Exe Expiration 1 (Month/Day | osed of, or onvertible reisable ar Date | r Bene | eficially (| owned and Amount lying | 8. Price of | 9. Number Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactior (Instr. 4) | Owners Form o Derivat Security Direct (or Indir | Owners y: (Instr. 4 (D) |
| Derivative Security | Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative | Date | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transac Code | ts, ca | 5. Num of Derivat Securit Acquire (A) or Dispose of (D) | rants ber tive ies ed | uired, Disp , options, co 6. Date Exe Expiration | osed of, or onvertible reisable ar Date //Year) | r Bene secur nd | rities) 7. Title a of Under Securitie | owned and Amount lying | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction | Owners Form o Derivat Security Direct (or Indir | ship of Indire f Benefic Owners y: (Instr. 4 |

| | Relationships | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|-------|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| BALOUSEK JOHN | | | | | | |
| 1340 TREAT BLVD., STE. 600 | X | | | | | |
| WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | | | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ John Balousek | 02/13/2006 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **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).
- One-third of the total options granted will become exercisable at each of 6 months, 18 months and 30 months after the date of the grant.

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.