

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO  
 Form 3  
 February 24, 2011

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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)

|   |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â HALAS GUS D</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>C/O CENTRAL GARDEN &amp; PET COMPANY, Â 1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>WALNUT CREEK, Â CA Â 94597</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p> | <p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>02/14/2011</p> | <p>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>CENTRAL GARDEN &amp; PET CO [CENT]</p> | <p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other<br/>                 (give title below) (specify below)<br/>                 Consultant</p> | <p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p> | <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p> |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned<br>(Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Common Stock                       | 0  | D   | Â  |
| Class A Common Stock               | 31,500 <u>(1)</u>  | D   | Â  |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |   |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
|  | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title  | Amount or Number of Shares  |   |   |   |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) <sup>(2)</sup> | 07/31/2010 <sup>(3)</sup>                                | 07/30/2014  | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock                             | 300,000   | \$ 11.29  | D | Â |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |            |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|------------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other      |
| HALAS GUS D<br>C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY<br>1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600<br>WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | Â             | Â         | Â       | Consultant |

## Signatures

/s/ Gus D. Halas                      02/24/2011  
 \*\*Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) On February 11, 2011, the Reporting Person was granted a restricted stock award under the Issuer's 2003 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan.
- (2) On July 31, 2009, the Reporting Person was granted a performance-based nonqualified option to purchase 300,000 shares of Class A Common Stock of the Issuer pursuant to the Issuer's 2003 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan.
- (3) The Option vests in three equal annual installments beginning July 31, 2010 based on the satisfaction of certain annual performance targets for each of the Issuer's fiscal years ending September 2009, 2010 and 2011.

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### Remarks:

Exhibit 24.1: Power of Attorney

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.