Epigraphic Survey senior artist Ray Johnson continued the supervision of the Chicago House art staff in the recording of the Luxor Temple Colonnade hall reliefs. He also continued the analysis and reassembly of decorated stone fragments from the missing upper walls of the hall (the “Lost Colonnade”), and worked with the Egyptian Antiquities Organization and the Karnak Franco-Egyptian Center in the identification of blocks from another dismantled temple of Tutankhamun’s, decorated in part with a series of monumental battle scenes.

This season marked Ray’s tenth year of work in Egypt and he was given a surprise “Heb Sed” (jubilee ceremony) by his colleagues to celebrate the event. This summer he spoke at the Oriental Institute Egyptological seminar on his thesis research (the Tutankhamun battle scene he is reconstructing), lectured in the Sunday Slide Talk series on the reuse of Akhenaten talatat by later kings, and in September he presented a lecture on the deified Amenhotep III and the Aten cult at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. The National Geographic Society is currently putting together a video documentary on his Luxor fragment work.