

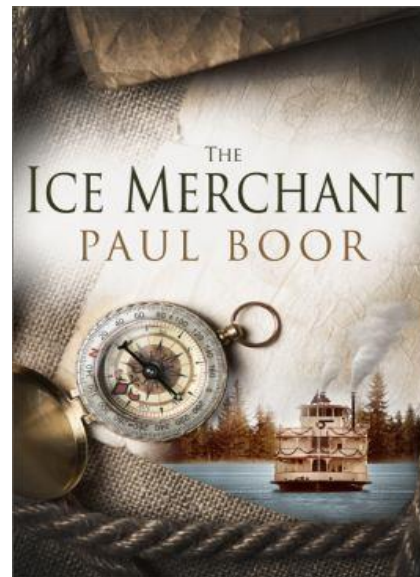
Rosenberg Library Announces Museum Book Club Summer Selection

Rosenberg Library is pleased to announce *The Ice Merchant* by Paul Boor is its selection for the Summer 2015 Museum Book Club Series. *The Ice Merchant* is the second book by Dr. Paul Boor, a professor of pathology at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. It was the first-place winner in the 2007 Texas Writers' League Novel Contest.

The first meeting of the Summer Museum Book Club will take place on Wednesday, July 15 from 12 noon – 1:00 pm. A second session will be held on Thursday, August 27 from 12 noon – 1:00 pm. Author Paul Boor will be a special guest at both programs.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Set in 1889, *The Ice Merchant* explores the history of the body trade and scientific discovery around the turn of the 20th century. The novel's main character, Nicolas Van Horne, is an ice merchant from New York who runs a profitable side-business of transporting human cadavers (stored inside of ice) to medical laboratories. One such facility is the new medical college in the port city of Galveston, Texas.



Cover image of *The Ice Merchant* by Paul Boor.

Upon arriving in Galveston, Nicolas discovers that several of the bodies in his possession are those of young boys who were murdered. He enlists the aid of Rene Keiller, a female scientist at the medical school, and together they embark upon a suspenseful journey to uncover the truth.

The Ice Merchant paints a vivid picture of what Galveston was like before the Great Storm. Paul Boor brings to life the island's people, places, and social customs of the day. This novel will appeal to both history lovers and mystery fans alike.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul Boor, M.D., is a professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, home to the highest level bio-safety laboratory in the United States. A world renowned, Harvard-trained pathologist and scientist, Dr. Boor's research laboratory has been funded for over 20 years by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Boor is also a writer whose poetry has appeared in literary journals and other publications since the 1970s. During the 1990s, he began writing works of fiction. To date, he has produced a series of short stories as well as two novels. His first novel, *The Blood Notes of Peter Mallow*, tells the story of a scientist at Galveston's biosafety lab who places himself in grave danger while working with the deadly bird-flu virus.

Dr. Boor lives on Galveston Island, where he continues to research, teach, and write.

FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

Boor's novel offers a historical perspective on a variety of subjects including architecture, medicine, and the Victorian-era fascination with the supernatural. Book club participants will view 19th century photos of Galveston buildings such as the Beach Hotel and Old Red from Rosenberg Library's archival collection. Other items related to places and events referenced in the book are vintage pharmaceutical supplies, old Mardi Gras invitations, an antique ice pick, and even an early 20th century crystal ball.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM BOOK CLUB

Rosenberg Library's Museum Book Club offers participants the chance to experience art and literature in a more interactive way. Members have the opportunity to view rarely exhibited art and historical artifacts from the library's permanent collection as they discuss related books.

Registration is required for all Museum Book Club meetings. Established book clubs are encouraged to participate. Groups of over 10 people are asked to call the Reference Desk in advance to arrange accommodations.

Copies of *The Ice Merchant* are available for [checkout at the Rosenberg Library](#).