**Panelist:** Yuri Leving <yleving@gmail.com>

**Title:** Commemorating Pushkin in Exile: The 1937 Centennial in America

**Abstract:** This paper will trace the little-known history of the American Pushkin Committee and its preparatory activities leading to the ambitious celebration of Alexander Pushkin's hundredth anniversary in the United States in 1937. General Motors promised the Pushkin Fund to broadcast Pushkin-inspired music to be conducted by Stravinsky; the Ford Motor Company supported an artistic program; the Metropolitan Opera agreed to a memorial performance of "Boris Godunov," while the Federal Children's Theater prepared a dramatization of "Coq d'Or". Boris Brasol, the President of the Pushkin Centennial committee, addressed the U.S. Chamber of Commerce with a speech devoted to Pushkin's genius. In addition, there were numerous university lectures and concerts, special catalogues and new translations of Pushkin's writings published in America, marking this important cultural landmark. I will suggest that these gaudy and, in some cases, controversial events, organized by the American Pushkin Committee, provided the Russian-speaking émigré community with a literary-historical alternative to the concurrent frenzy surrounding the Pushkin 1937 celebrations in the Soviet Union.