On This Date

1909 – A Morse code SOS signal was transmitted for the first time in an emergency. The dispatch was sent by the Cunard liner RMS Slavonia, which had wrecked off the Azores.

1935 – After a day in which he drank a beer before performing surgery, Dr. Bob Smith and his friend William G. Wilson founded Alcoholics Anonymous.

1943 – László Bíró patented the first modern ballpoint pen. Bíró was a Hungarian journalist.

1947 – The Swedish company Saab introduced its first car, the model 92 prototype. The 92 came equipped with a two-cylinder, two-stroke engine that had a top speed of 62 mph.

Celebrity Trivia

Judy Garland’s birthplace in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, is now a museum.

Quote of the Day

“I’ve never looked through a keyhole without finding someone was looking back.”

~ Judy Garland

Happy Birthday!

Judy Garland (1922–1969), born Frances Ethel Gumm, was a versatile actress, dancer, and singer whose career spanned 45 of her 47 years. As a child, Judy and her sisters performed in vaudeville acts. As a teenager, she signed with MGM. The dynamic performer was a frequent co-star of Gene Kelly and Mickey Rooney and starred as Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz (1939). Garland also headlined a series of record-breaking, critically acclaimed concert appearances. Garland’s album Judy at Carnegie Hall was honored with four Grammy Awards.