Local historian to speak about “The Newtown Hundred and the Colonial Catholic Church”
On October 1st
Peter Himmelheber was born in Falls Church, VA in 1939. His family moved to St. Mary’s County in the early 1940s. He attended parochial schools and was among the first to graduate from Ryken High School. Pete attended St. Mary’s Seminary and completed his bachelor’s degree at the University of Maryland in 1962. He served as an officer in the U. S. Navy followed by a career in civil service as an electrical engineer at NESEA, St. Inigoes, MD. Pete is married to the former Lillian Fenwick and is the father of four daughters and grandfather of seven. Pete is retired and his current interest is history, which has led to land records research and volunteering at Historic Saint Mary’s City, Sotterley Plantation and the Saint Mary’s County Historical Society. In 2011, Pete received the “Cross Bottony” award from Historic Saint Mary’s City for his volunteer effort there. Pete also sits on the Historical Society’s Editorial Committee for their quarterly publication, Chronicles of Saint Mary’s. Other hobbies include blacksmithing, coopering, bodging, metal casting and computer programming. See his website www.radnorforge.com

Father Conley to speak about “Religious Practice Among Colonial Catholics”
On October 29th
Fr. Rory T. Conley is the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Bryantown as well as the Historian for the Archdiocese of Washington.

He earned his doctoral degree in Church History at the Catholic University of America in 1996. He is a past president of the Catholic Historical Society of Washington and he is on the Board of Directors of the St. Mary's County Historical Society. Fr. Conley is the author of numerous articles for the Chronicles of St. Mary’s.