

# ROCKSLIDE

## Classic Rock

The Classic Rock band **Rockslide** has been keeping its audiences entertained and grooving on the Long Island circuit since it was formed in 2001. The band plays what they describe as “Popular Classic Rock.” “We play in the vein of Eric Clapton, the Allman Brothers, Grand Funk Railroad and other bands you may have heard on the FM dial,” says founding member and guitarist Mark Thomas. “We all feel that the thing that sets us apart from many of the other bands on the circuit is our singing.” Mark’s statement certainly holds true, given that all four-band members are strong vocalists with different strengths and who have a genuine love of harmonizing. A group of real veteran musicians, the members of **Rockslide** have over 120 combined years of playing experience. “I think it’s more of a plus given all our abilities,” says drummer Rich Wood. “We have the skills to do the music quite well and I think the love we have for performing what we play keeps things fresh.”

**Guitarist/vocalist Mike Hogan** is the newest member of **Rockslide**, joining in early 2008. Mike sings in a bluesy baritone voice and is a top-shelf Blues/Rock guitarist. He is especially skilled in playing the slide guitar. In addition to playing with the long-running L.I. band, Second Wind, Mike has been staunch supporter of the local scene. Mike helped the Long Island Songwriters Showcase to grow in the mid-Nineties after being hand-picked to replace its founder, Rob Barinello. The increase in membership during Mike’s tenure required a move from the Huntington Public Library to Five Towns College. He is also an accomplished audio engineer who has worked on multiple Gold and Platinum recordings. Mike has built, renovated and owned world-class recording facilities. He currently consults private and corporate clients on studio design, acoustic issues, audio equipment purchasing, wiring and installation with business partner Tommy Uzzo.

**Bassist/vocalist George Gelish** is another founding member of **Rockslide**. A versatile player with a wide variety of performance credits, he has logged time in Rock, Blues, Soul, Jazz Fusion, Country, Folk and Wedding combos. George sings in a powerful, soulful voice that he describes as, “Steve Winwood meets Gregg Allman at Paul Carrack’s house.” He typically takes on the “gritty” lead vocals on the Joe Cocker and Allman Brothers type songs. In addition to his long experience playing in bands, George has also performed on bass and vocals with more “legit” outfits such as the Huntington Choral Society, Huntington Men’s Chorus, his church’s choir and various religious ensembles.

**Guitarist/vocalist Mark Thomas** is a longtime veteran of the Long Island scene. Before forming **Rockslide**, Mark played for four years with ACL (All Classic Rock) and three with Proper Potion. He recruited George for the first lineup of the band in 2001. Mark’s original vision of the band was to, “Kick it up a notch and progress,” and throughout his tenure with the band he has stayed true to that vision. Mark is a leading proponent of the philosophy that “Tight is Right” With his reedy Tenor voice, Mark typically sings the Eric Clapton and Stevie Ray Vaughan songs.

**Drummer/vocalist Rich “Lit’l Buddy” Wood** started playing drums at an early age. He joined **Rockslide** in 2004. Rich was one of the founding members of SUMUS, a band that spent five years backing a local touring production company of “Godspell” and which was featured in the Off-Off Broadway show “Mad Dog Blues.” Rich is a versatile percussionist with influences from Rock, Soul, Blues, Swing, Jazz and Fusion. He is also an exceptional vocalist, singing lead on his share of songs with finesse and a lot of feeling.

For more information about **Rockslide**, including recordings, pictures, our performance calendar and a current song list, check out our website at <http://www.RockslideBand.com>

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