Chris' wife and son were murdered before the start of the series and this has turned him into a reserved but deadly individual.

Vin is a former buffalo and bounty hunter and a superb tracker; he and Chris originally begin the group by coming together to rescue Nathan from a lynching. Vin's mother died from a fever when he was five years old and he has spent time living among native Americans.

J.D. came from the East Coast where his mother was a servant and he served as a stable-boy; his mother saved money to send him to college, but there wasn't enough, so instead he came out West to become a gunfighter.

Nathan was a former slave who served as a stretcher-bearer in the Union Army, and learned a great deal about medicine during that time. He serves as the group's healer and has a practice in town.

Buck is an old friend of Chris' and the womanizer of the group, seizing any opportunity presented to flirt with any woman who'll have him.

Josiah is a former gunfighter and preacher who has trouble forgiving himself for acts he committed in the past. He claims to have trouble turning the other cheek and bears animosity towards his father, who was a missionary.

Ezra is a Southern con man and gambler with elements of Lee (Robert Vaughn) and Harry Luck (Brad Dexter). Ezra struggles the most with moral dilemmas as he knows his con-artist ways are unethical.

Maude is Ezra's con-artist mother. She is so concerned that Ezra might lose his edge that she comes to town just to drive his bar out of business and then buy it for him because she doesn't want him to lose his edge or settle into a mundane life.